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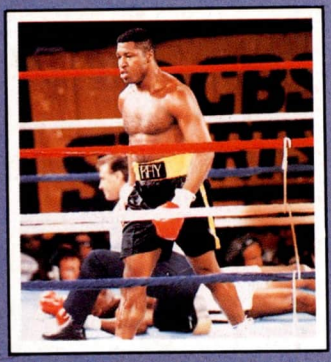
. . . Riddick Bowe, the boxer, who, like Tyson, is Brooklyn-tough . . .



. . . and Ray Mercer, the puncher, a ring assassin with knockout dreams.

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CONTENTS

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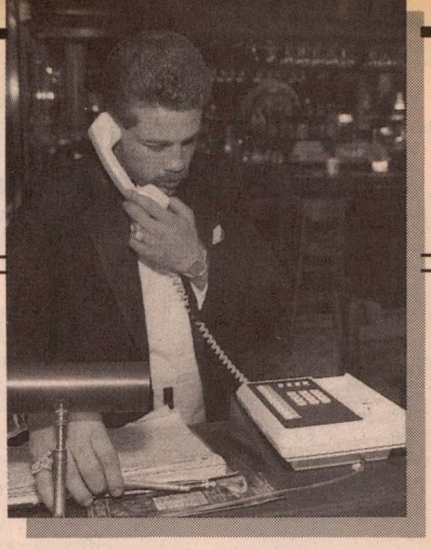


FEATURES

24 GOING THE DISTANCE: BOBBY CZYZ BOXES WITH THE SHADOWS OF HIS PAST *by Jeff Ryan*

28 THE COMEBACK OF GERRY COONEY: A NEW VOICE, BUT THE SAME OLD SONG? *by Nigel Collins*

30 TARGET TYSON! RAY MERCER AND RIDDICK BOWE TAKE AIM *by Steve Farhood*

39 THE BAYONNE BLEEDER'S BLOODIEST BRAWL: CHUCK WEPNER REMEMBERS THE FIGHT NO ONE DARED STOP *by Joseph C. Tintle*

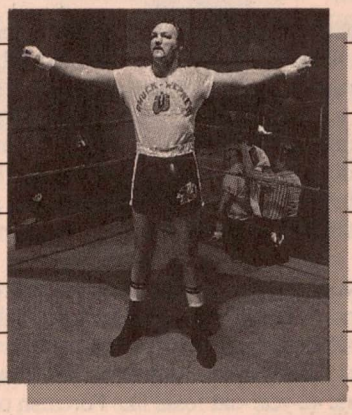
COLOR SECTION

35 THE OLYMPIANS AS PROS

RINGSIDE REPORTS AND ANALYSES

42 FIGHTER OF THE MONTH & RINGSIDE REPORTS

49 THE RING AROUND THE WORLD



RATINGS

12 THE RING'S INTERNATIONAL RATINGS

64 WBC, WBA, & IBF RATINGS

DEPARTMENTS

4 RINGSIDE *by Steve Farhood*

6 COME OUT WRITING

8 ROUND ONE

14 KATZ SCAN *by Michael Katz*

16 RYAN OUT LOUD *by Jeff Ryan*

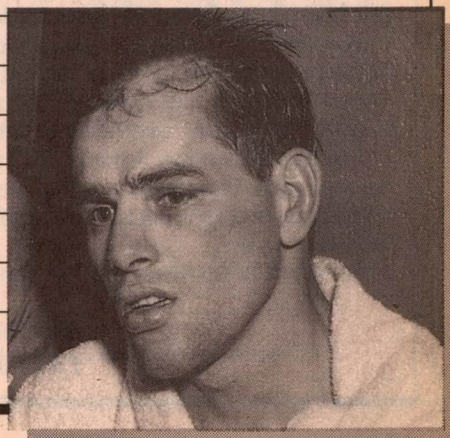
20 NEW FACES: Junior Welterweight Vincent Phillips

23 WATCHING TV

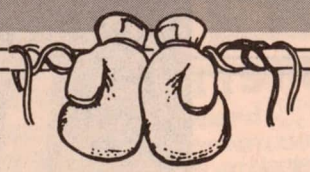
48 WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

66 VETERAN BOXERS BEAT *by Angelo Prospero*

67 THE RING CLASSIC: Bobo Olson Tops With TV Fans



RINGSIDE



PLAYING IN A schoolyard football game, a 10-year-old boy doesn't like the fact that the quarterback is throwing passes to everyone but him. So he takes the football, which happens to be his, and walks away.

And that's how the World Boxing Organization was formed.

Boxing needs the WBO like Imelda Marcos needs a pair of penny loafers. The WBO, like the WBC and the IBF before it, is an offshoot of the WBA, boxing's oldest organization. The sport now has *four* sanctioning bodies, *four* sets of ratings, and *four* sets of champions. Fortunately, the media, and the bulk of boxing's fans, haven't accepted, or even acknowledged, the WBO, in part because it lists "champions" like Genaro Leon, Mauricio Aceves, and Elvis Alvarez, but mostly because enough is enough. With the addition of the WBO, there is now the potential for 68 different world champions.

The Ring has chosen not to recognize the ratings or champions of the WBO, a body which, we believe, was not formed with the best interests of boxing at its core. In a perfect world, we might not recognize the WBA, WBC, or IBF either, but that's a battle for another page.

***

Concerning the heavyweight bout between Gerry Cooney and George Foreman, scheduled for January 15 in Atlantic City: Like the bearded lady at the circus, Cooney-Foreman is an attraction because we are curious. It's easy to picture Cooney reaching back for a hook and Foreman dropping in one; it's just as easy to picture Foreman clubbing a defenseless Cooney into an early-rounds submission. (We should add that it's also easy to picture the fighters falling all over each other for 10 dreadful rounds.) The heavyweights are huge and, at one time, at least, they could punch. So we don't condemn anyone who is excited by this matchup.

But their unpredictable clash aside, Cooney and Foreman are not helping boxing. Does it not cheapen the sport when Cooney, a sometimes-fighter with conflicting motivations and dubious credentials, returns to the ring every few years to soothe a wounded psyche? Does it not lower world-class standards when an overweight but charismatic 42-year-old fossil like Foreman cons the public into believing that he presents a legitimate challenge to a dangerously primed and peaking champion like Mike Tyson? Cooney and Foreman are helping to perpetuate the myth that just about anyone can fight, even at the highest level. That fuels the imaginations of non-boxers like Tony Mandarich and Mark Gastineau, who fill the sports pages by threatening to fill the ring.

Boxing is a sport that demands total physical and mental dedication and concentration. Part-timers and old-timers need not apply. Those who use and abuse the sport can't fool all of us all of the time. Eventually, they're exposed for what they are.

So enjoy Cooney-Foreman. Just don't confuse the spectacle with the sport.

Steve Farhood
Editor-in-Chief

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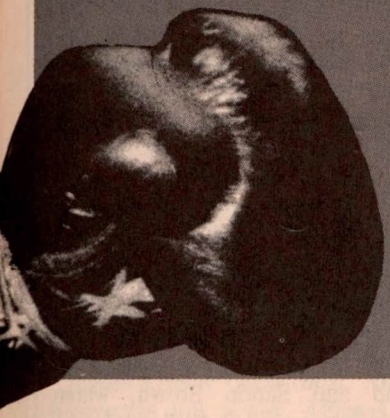

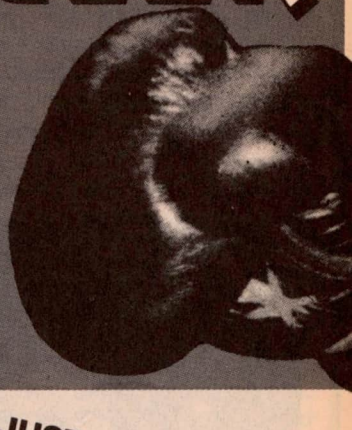

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COME OUT WRITING

Top-rated British middleweight Michael Watson hopes his championship cup is soon replaced by a world championship belt.

The Ring welcomes comments, questions, and criticism. Send your letters to The Ring, 55 Maple Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY 11570. Letters may be edited for reasons of space and clarity.

THE GRITTY BRITS

I would like to first congratulate you on your first-class magazine. It is a real treat to actually read quality reports and a full international results service. We have had to wait years in Britain for something similar, but at last we have one in our new publication, *Boxing Monthly*.

While it is the United States that dominates all aspects of boxing, I'd like to make a suggestion: I'm a little disappointed with the lack of reportage of British fighters. I realize we lack the depth of quality fighters compared to the United States, but I feel that there are a few fighters worthy of mention, not only because of their recognized ability, but also so that American fans can enjoy a wider berth in world boxing.

For instance, Gary Mason is as good as the other "stiffs" on the heavyweight scene. And at middleweight, Herol Graham, not at his best against Mike McCallum, is still a future world champion. Also, Michael Watson is all wired up for a shot at new champion McCallum, and Nigel Benn, once he gets his defense and patience sorted out, will again exhibit his awesome punching power. Among the other aces in the deck is Rod Douglas, with a good chin and effective punch.

Two welterweights destined for ring stardom are Gary Jacobs and George Collins. In other weight divisions, watch Jim McDonnell, Floyd Havard, Robert Dickie, and Paul Hodkinson.

I hope this might stir up some interest in British fighters.

LEE HUGHES
Reading, England

THE MAGIC MAN

After watching WBC welterweight champion Marlon Starling easily dispose of South Korea's Yungkil Chung, I was reminded of the lack of publicity and exposure Starling receives. It hasn't been fair for years, and it's still not fair.

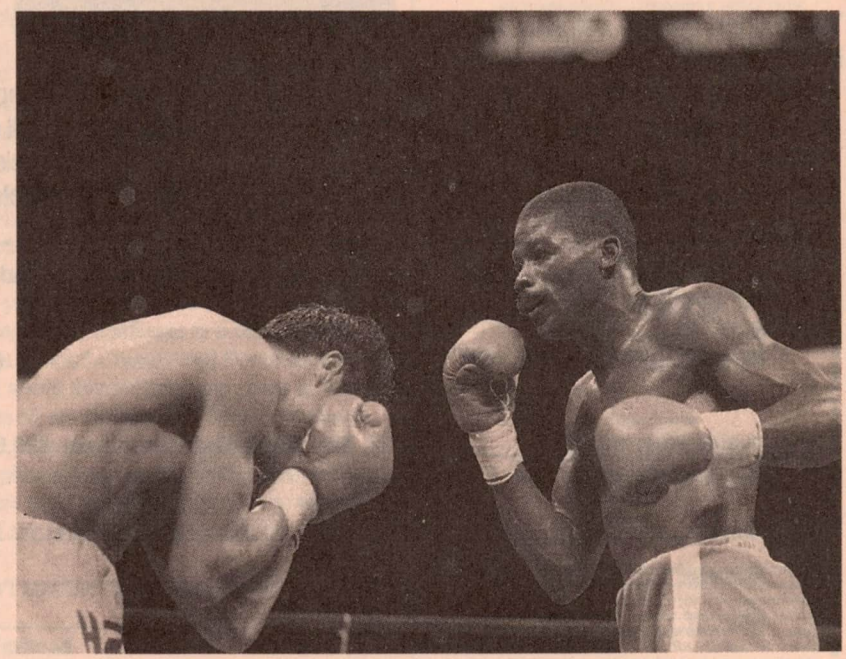
Starling destroyed the promise of Mark Breland, and then crushed Lloyd Honeyghan. He's clearly the best welterweight in the world, yet fighters like Breland and Simon Brown, whom Starling has beaten, get all the ink.

Starling isn't a big puncher. He's not from New York or Los Angeles. He's not the type to make headlines or get in trouble. So he suffers.

Starling isn't a kid anymore, so boxing fans won't have him around much longer. Let's appreciate him now for what he is, and has always been: a class fighter who has mastered the long-lost art of defense, and a consistent performer who has won more than his share of big fights.

It's about time that fans stopped punishing Starling for his two losses to Donald Curry. After all, look where Curry is today, and then look where Starling is.

THOMAS G. FARNENTON
Cairo, NY



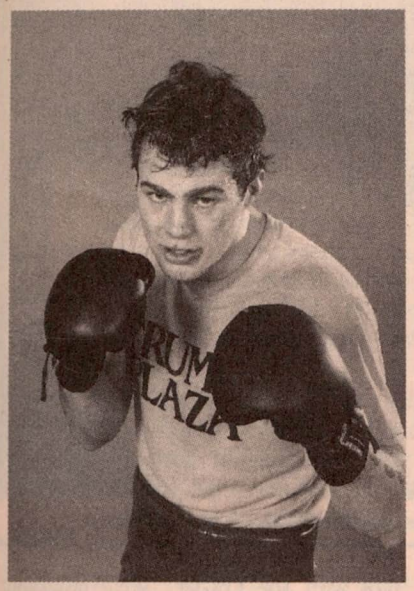
The long-underappreciated Marlon Starling easily retained the WBC welterweight title with a 12-round decision over South Korean challenger Yungkil Chung.

THE LONGEST REIGN

I recently watched WBA junior lightweight champion Brian Mitchell defend the crown with a stoppage of Irving Mitchell on the USA cable network. More than once during the telecast, blow-by-blow announcer Al Albert referred to Mitchell as the longest reigning champion in the game. He said Mitchell won his crown in September 1986. There are far too many champions to keep track of, but I can't believe Albert's information is correct. Is Mitchell indeed the longest reigning champion in boxing?

EDGAR KOUVAKIS
New York

[Editor's reply: Good catch. Albert's information was wrong. Mitchell isn't even close to being the longest reigning champion. That honor belongs to WBA junior bantamweight titlist Khaosai Galaxy, who won his crown in November 1984. Another long-reigning champion is WBA junior flyweight champion Yuh Myung Woo, who won his title in December 1985.]



British banger Glenn McCrory, the reigning IBF cruiserweight champion, is among boxing's 32 non-American world titlists.

AMERICAN CHAMPS

There was a time in the '70s when Danny Lopez, Muhammad Ali, and Carlos Palomino were the only American champions in boxing. Today, of course, there are dozens more world champions than there were then. Boxing has opened up internationally, and it seems that there are many more Oriental champions, especially in the very light weight classes, than there used to be.

There are also an unusual amount of foreign-born champions in the higher weight classes, like Gianfranco Rosi (Italy), Glenn McCrory (England), Juan Coggi (Argentina), In Chul Baek (South Korea), and Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico).

Is it my imagination, or are there fewer American champions than in recent years?

CARLOS ALVAREZ
Chicago

[Editor's reply: There are indeed fewer American champions, but part of that is due to the proliferation of lighter weight classes, such as strawweight, junior flyweight, and junior bantamweight. A breakdown: As of October 1, there were 46 different WBA, WBC, and IBF champions. Only 14 were Americans.]

A SAD ENDING?

Like most boxing fans, I was furious after the draw decision in the Leonard-Hearns rematch. I watched the fight three times on tape, and there's no way that Hearns didn't win that fight. But that's not my point.

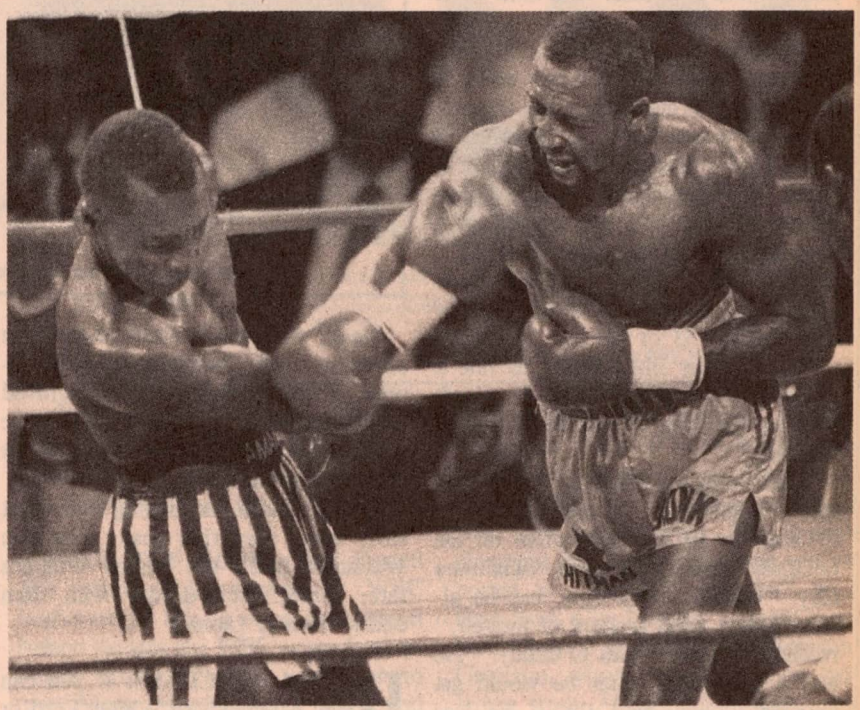
Whatever happened to earning your title shot? Dennis Andries beat Bobby Czyz, yet he was denied a promised title shot against Virgil Hill. Evander Holyfield kayos Michael Dokes, and there's talk of a Mike Tyson-Dokes fight happening way before a Tyson-Holyfield fight ever does. And then Hearns knocks down Leonard twice, beats him on the cards of everyone but the judges, and sits around, getting old, while Leonard gets richer fighting Roberto Duran. Is there no justice?

Leonard's been calling the shots for most of his career. While that is fine for him, it affects other fighters. Hearns doesn't have much left, and his effort against Leonard rates with the most courageous of all-time. He probably should retire, but if he doesn't want to, that's his business. If he wants another big fight, that's his right; he earned it. But instead of fighting a major foe for big dollars, Hearns is forced to sit around and watch Leonard and Duran go at it again.

Hearns isn't the only one waiting around. Michael Nunn deserves a big bout, and most boxing fans would love to see him in against one of the members of the Seniors Tour. But he'll probably waste his time fighting a Michael Olajide or a Doug DeWitt. Maybe Hearns and Nunn can match up and make Leonard wait and watch for a change.

After all, there's more than one superstar in boxing. Or at least I always thought there was.

EDDIE BARNICK
Ottawa, Ontario□



An inspired Thomas Hearns caroms a long right off the head of Sugar Ray Leonard during their heated rematch in June. The fight ended in a draw.

ROUND ONE

BOXING'S BEST LOSER: Everybody loves a winner, but only a true boxing fan can appreciate a loser. The journeyman. The trialhorse. Okay, enough with the euphemisms—the *stiff, the bum,* or *the warm body*. Everyone has seen him, but nobody remembers him. He's the faceless guy who is flown in from Anytown, USA, to face a hot prospect with a sparkling record.

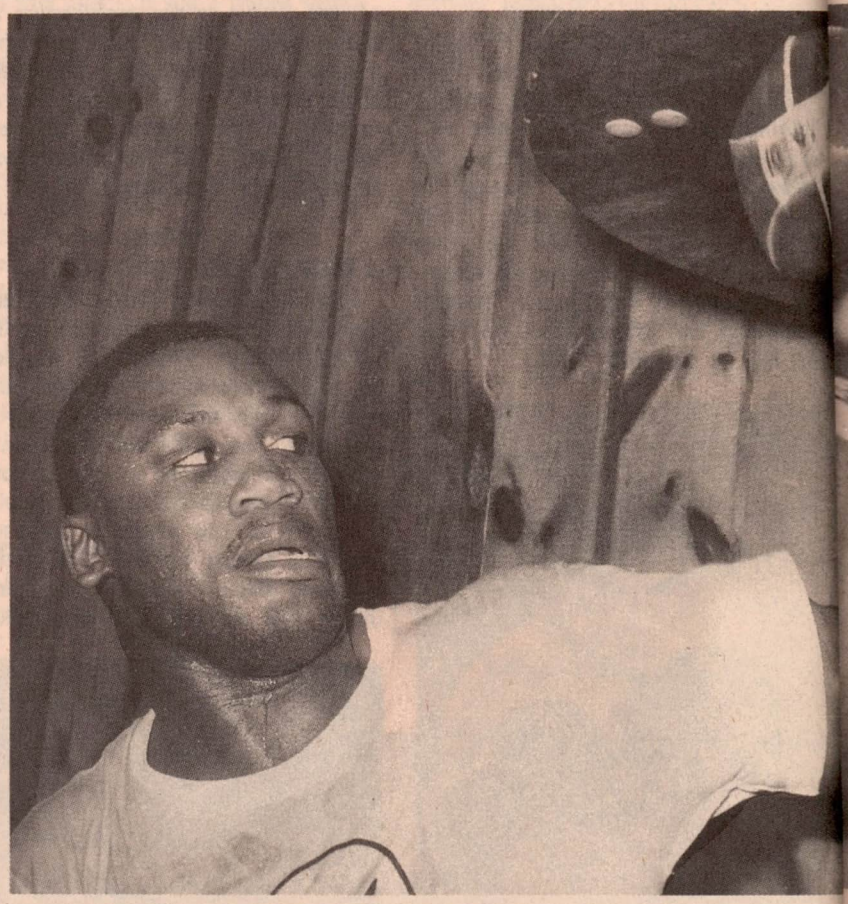
At first glance, there seems to be nothing wrong with this fighter. He wears a plain terrycloth robe with no name on the back. And he's always surrounded by three handlers in his corner, two of whom he's never met before.

It may happen in the first round, or not until the fourth, but the fighter is inevitably stretched on his back as the referee tolls a 10-count. The fighter's sole purpose is to lose. And look good doing it.

Memphis promoter Elliot Harvith honored one of boxing's best stiffs at the Lansing (Tennessee) Civic Arena, when he proclaimed his October 7 fight card "Simmie Black Night." Black, a Memphis lightweight, began boxing in 1972 and has established a hard-earned reputation by compiling a record of 16-101-4 in 18 years of boxing. He has been knocked out 63 times and has lost 53 of his last 54 fights.

"I remember Black doing as fine a job as I've ever seen looking for a soft spot in the ring to lie down," said Harvith.

Black, who was knocked out by former lightweight champion Sean O'Grady in 1975, fought often on the O'Grady family's cards in Oklahoma City. "He lost every time, but he always gave a good account of himself," recalled promoter Jean O'Grady. "He was a showman. After he would get knocked down, he'd throw his legs over his head and flip back up to his feet."



If you'd like to be hit by Joe Frazier's left hook, now is your chance

Black, who did not attend his own ceremony, was honored, or dishonored, if you prefer, with an engraved shovel that read, "Presented to Simmie Black, in honor of one of the greatest stiffs in boxing history."

But if Black is boxing's greatest stiff, what does that make Shannon Williams? Black has beaten Williams three times and drawn with him once.—**Robert Cassidy**

DREAM PUNCHERS: If you can play baseball with Whitey Ford or ice hockey with Bobby Clarke at sports fantasy camps, why can't you trade jabs with **Joe Frazier**? Well, now you can. Steiner Associates and **Bill Liederman**, owner of Mickey Mantle's restaurant in New York City, are putting together a boxing fantasy camp for a long weekend in January or February. The likely location will be an Atlantic City hotel. Adult campers will pay about $2,000 for four days and three nights of training and instruction. The highlight will be one round in the ring with a former pro. Among those who have tentatively agreed to appear: Frazier, **Gerry Cooney**, **Ray Mancini**, **Larry Holmes**, **Ken Norton**, **Eddie Futch**, and **Gil Clancy**.

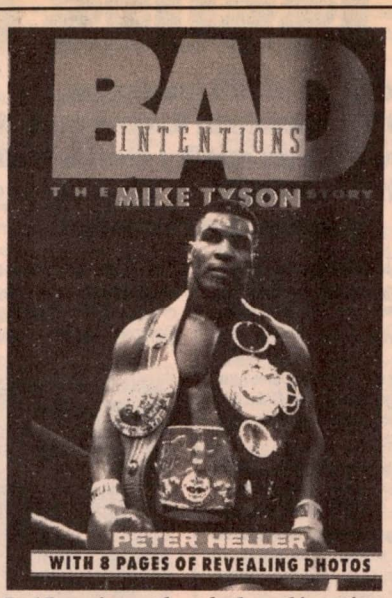
WHAT'S NEXT, THE KITCHEN SINK?: British light heavyweight **Steve McCarthy** seemed on the verge of a victory over **Tony Wilson** at the Guildhall in the English town of Southampton. But then Wilson was saved by some extraordinary outside interference.

"This little old lady came from about 10 rows back," eyewitness Chris Skudder told the *Sun,* a British publication. "She managed to get through the security men and clamber into the ring. She was waving this high-heeled shoe over her head."

That was no little old lady. That was **Minna Wilson,** Tony's mom.

Minna attacked McCarthy with the heel of her shoe and reportedly opened up a hideous gash that required hospital treatment. (Conflicting reports, however, indicated that Wilson was not badly injured.) In a decision that rates with the most unjust in boxing history, Wilson was awarded the fight. (It was later changed to a no-contest) But what price victory? Before returning to his dressing room, Wilson was kicked and punched by McCarthy's fans. And, as the mini-riot escalated, light heavyweight Mo Hussein, a stablemate of Wilson's, was stabbed in the back. His injuries were not serious.

McCarthy and Wilson will meet again. Momma Minna has been banned from ringside by her own son. Unless she'll agree to wear thongs.



Bad Intentions at least had good intentions

BOOK REVIEW: *Bad Intentions: The Mike Tyson Story*, by ABC-TV producer Peter Heller, is the third entry about Tyson this year, joining Phil Berger's *Blood Season* and Jose Torres' *Fire And Fear* on the bookshelves. If you've read all three books, you're probably familiar with the latitude and longitude of Tyson's most private birthmarks by now.

Heller's book, the only pure biography of the three, answers the opening bell with a flurry. The first third of the book, detailing Tyson's teenage years and the life of the heavyweight champion's mentor, Cus D'Amato, is fascinating, with lots of fresh material not to be found in the other two books. Heller's research is outstanding, and his insights concerning the myth of D'Amato are especially revealing. His opinionated style, however, does not always come across as appropriate.

On page 156 of *Bad Intentions,* Tyson defeats Trevor Berbick to become the youngest heavyweight champion in history. At that point, the book slumps, like a puncher who fails to score an early kayo. Heller's writing becomes unimaginative and cliche-ridden, and his chapters on Don King, Robin Givens and Ruth Roper, Tyson's marriage, and his title fights, read like a rehash of news we've ingested countless times before.

Bad Intentions has good intentions, but just doesn't go the distance.

INSIDE THE ROPES: Jeff Fenech is planning to vacate the WBC featherweight title as soon as **Azumah Nelson** vacates the WBC super featherweight crown. Fenech, scheduled to meet **Mario Martinez** in a 130-pound eliminator, will seek his fourth world title at super featherweight . . . In a revealing piece in *The Village Voice,* **Ras-I Aluja (Livingstone) Bramble** admitted that nine months after losing the WBA lightweight title by kayo to **Edwin Rosario** in September 1986, he contemplated suicide and, at one point, held a shotgun to his head. Several hours later, he checked into a hospital, and subsequently began visiting a psychotherapist . . . Rumors are rampant than **Larry Holmes** and **Michael Spinks** may end their retirements. Add the name of former featherweight great **Eusebio Pedroza** to the possible comebackers. Pedroza, who hasn't fought in three years, is aiming for WBA junior lightweight champion **Brian Mitchell** . . . **Hector Lopez,** rated first at featherweight by the WBC, was sentenced in Pasadena (California) Superior Court to four years in prison for breaking into his former girlfriend's house and pistol-whipping her cousin and father . . . IBF middleweight champion **Michael Nunn** was arrested on a misdemeanor charge of simple assault after a brawl in his hometown of Davenport, Iowa . . . Former junior middleweight **Pedro Estrada,** a member of the FBI's 10 Most-Wanted suspects, was arrested in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in connection with three New York homicides . . . Former middleweight king **Rocky Graziano** was reported in "guarded condition" in a New York City hospital at press time. According to a family spokesperson, Graziano, who is rumored to be suffering from Alzheimer's disease, collapsed in New York in late-September. □

INTERSTATE FLIGHT - MURDER

WANTED BY FBI

PEDRO LUIS ESTRADA

DESCRIPTION

CRIMINAL RECORD

CAUTION

Estrada once made the FBI's ratings

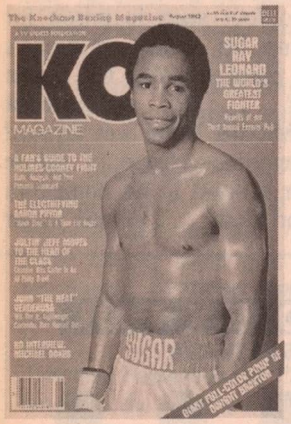
BACK ISSUES OF KO

Back issues of several editions of KO magazine, the acknowledged leader in boxing journalism, are still available in limited quantity. Since its inception in 1980, KO has become known for its quality stories and columns and peak-action photographs. Plus, each issue contains a full-color centerfold. Don't delay. Supplies are running out!

Dec. 1981: Champion Michael Spinks: The Ghetto, The Gold, The Glory. Color Pinup: Saad Muhammad. Also: Holmes, Duran, Boxing lists.

April 1982: Holmes vs. Cooney: The 20 Crucial Questions On The Biggest Fight In History. Color Pinup: Gerry Cooney. Also: Ayala Jr., Hagler, Joe Frazier.

June 1982: Wilfred Benitez: The King Of Style Conquers Duran. Color Pinup: Saoul Mamby. Also: Braxton, Saad Muhammad.



AUGUST 1982

Aug. 1982: Sugar Ray Leonard: The World's Greatest Fighter. Color Pinup: Dwight Braxton. Also: Holmes-Cooney, Pryor, Dokes, Chandler.

Sept. 1982: WBC Lightweight Champion Alexis Arguello: Head To Head With Aaron Pryor. Color Pinup: Aaron Pryor. Also: Chacon, Mancini-Frias.

Oct. 1982: Larry Holmes Turns Back The Cooney Challenge. Color Pinup: Davey Moore. Also: Arguello, Mancini, Czyz.

Nov. 1982: The Myth Of Gerry Cooney: How Much Is Left, How Much Is Gone? Color Pinup: Holmes-Cooney. Also: Hearns, Garza, Weaver-Dokes.

March 1983: Sugar Ray Leonard Retires: An Era Comes To An End. Color Pinup: Jeff Chandler. Also: Pryor-Arguello, Kenty, Curry.

April 1983: Aaron Pryor: The Rise Of The Hawk. Color Pinup: Wilfredo Gomez. Also: Czyz, Hearns-Benitez, Palomino, Snipes.

May 1983: Hector Camacho: "Ray Mancini Will Be An Easy Fight." Color Pinup: Michael Dokes. Also: Spinks-Qawi, John Tate, Year In Review.

June 1983: WBA Jr. Middleweight Champion Davey Moore: Bracing For Duran's Last Stand. Color Pinup: Donald Curry. Also: Duran-Cuevas, Hagler-Sibson, Pinklon Thomas.

July 1983: Marvelous Marvin Hagler: The Man, The Champion, The Superstar. Color Pinup: Juan LaPorte. Also: Cooney, Chacon, Curry, Duran-Moore.

Aug. 1983: Michael Spinks: King Of The Light Heavyweights . . . But The Glory Can't Erase The Sadness. Color Pinup: Johnny Bumphus. Also: Pryor-Arguello, Breland.

Sept. 1983: Alexis Arguello: One Last Chance To Cage The Hawk. Color Pinup: Wilfred Benitez. Also: O'Grady, Gomez-LaPorte, Blake.

Oct. 1983: Is Larry Holmes Finished? Color Pinup: Greg Page. Also: Marvis Frazier, Hagler, Chacon, Dempsey.

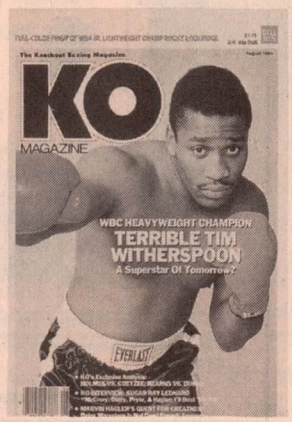
Dec. 1983: Hagler-Duran: The War To Crown Boxing's Best. Color Pinup: Thomas Hearns. Also: Hamsho, Blake-Baltazar, Jerry Quarry.

Jan. 1984: Ray Mancini: "When Chacon And I Are In The Ring, We'll Be Doing War." Color Pinup: Milton McCrory. Also: Pryor-Arguello, Holmes-Frazier.

March 1984: Hagler Defeats Duran: A Marvelous Night In Las Vegas: Color Pinup: Albert Davila. Also: Moore, Arguello, White Lightning Brown.

May 1984: Sugar Ray Leonard: Head To Head With Aaron Pryor. Color Pinup: Eusebio Pedroza. Also: Rossman, Bogner, Achievement '83, Year In Review.

July 1984: Donald Curry: "I Fight Better Under Pressure." Color Pinup: Gerrie Coetzee. Also: Mugabi, Cooney, Camacho-Mancini.



AUGUST 1984

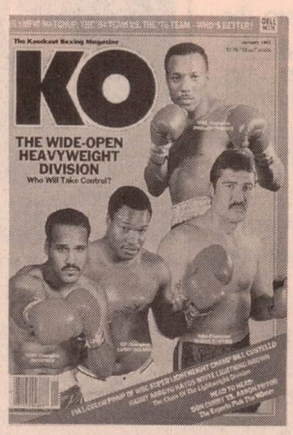
Aug. 1984: WBC Heavyweight Champion Terrible Tim Witherspoon: A Superstar Of Tomorrow? Color Pinup: Rocky Lockridge. Also: Sugar Ray, Hagler, Gomez-LaPorte.

Sept. 1984: It's Hawk Time Again! What Aaron Pryor's Return Means To Boxing. Color Pinup: Marvin Hagler. Also: Spinks, The Lightweights. Pintor.

Oct. 1984: Golden Boy Mark Breland: Can He Be The Next Sugar Ray? Color Pinup: Jaime Garza. Also: Bramble-Mancini, Sugar Ray, Pryor.

Nov. 1984: Thomas Hearns: "Hagler Is Shakin' Like A Leaf On A Tree!" Color Pinup: Tim Witherspoon. Also: Bramble, Rosario-Davis, Starling.

Dec. 1984: John "The Beast" Mugabi: Does He Have Any Weaknesses? Color Pinup: Livingstone Bramble. Also: Coetzee, Costello, Duran.



JANUARY 1985

Jan. 1985: The Wide-Open Heavyweight Division: Who Will Take Control? Color Pinup: Bill Costello. Also: Arroyo, Curry-Pryor, McGuigan.

Feb. 1985: Gerry Cooney: How Far Can He Go This Time? Color Pinup: Michael Spinks. Also: Mancini, Dream fights, Camacho.

March 1985: Next For Marvin Hagler: The Only Fighter That Really Matters. Color Pinup: Mike McCallum. Also: Meza-Garza, Holmes, Santos-Medal.

April 1985: How Will America's Olympians Do In The Pros? Color Pinup: Larry Holmes. Also: Hagler-Hearns, Costello, Prince Mohammed.

May 1985: Thomas Hearns: *KO* Fighter Of The Year. Color Pinup: Gerry Cooney. Also: Camacho-Ramirez, Truth Williams, Year In Review.

June 1985: "Why I'll Win" By Marvin Hagler & Thomas Hearns. Color Pinup: Hagler vs. Hearns. Also: Curry, Camacho, Mustafa Muhammad.

July 1985: Aaron Pryor: Has Hawk Time Run Out? Color Pinup: Donald Curry. Also: Mancini, Page, Shuler, Costello-Hatcher.

Aug. 1985: King Cobra: "Hagler-Hearns Is Done And I'm Better Than Both Of Them!" Color Pinup: John Mugabi. Also: Holmes, Czyz, Duran, DeWitt-Lee.

Sept. 1985: So Sweet! So Marvelous! Marvin Hagler Becomes Boxing's Number One Man. Color Pinup: Hagler vs. Hearns. Also: Holmes-Spinks, Tubbs, Chavez, Sandoval.

Oct. 1985: Still Champ After All These Years: Larry Holmes—A Legend Continues To Grow. Breland, Gomez, McCrory, Spinks, Hagler.

Nov. 1985: McGuigan! The Pluck Of The Irish. Color Pinup: Pinky vs. Weaver. Also: Curry, Chavez, Hagler-Mugabi.

Dec. 1985: Pinklon Thomas: "Larry Holmes Betrayed Boxing." Color Pinup: Hagler-Mugabi. Also: McCallum, Biggs, Camacho-Ramirez.

Jan. 1986: Macho Mania! Hector Camacho Takes Aim At 10 Tough Targets. Color Pinup: Jimmy Paul. Also: Truth Williams, Arguello, Curry-McCrory.

Feb. 1986: King Michael: How Long Will He Rule The Heavyweights? Color Pinup: Spinks vs. Holmes. Also: Rocky IV, McGuigan, O'Sullivan, Best Fighter Poll.

March 1986: Marvin Hagler: From Kayos To Chaos. Color Pinup: Hector Camacho. Also: Spinks, Arguello, Arroyo, Qawi.

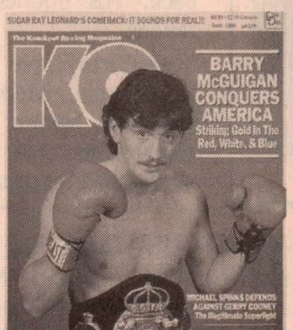
April 1986: Undisputed Welterweight Champion Donald Curry: The Next Ray Leonard? Color Pinup: Barry McGuigan. Also: Tyson, Year In Review.

May 1986: Heavyweight Sensation Mike Tyson: A Hard-Hitting Talk With A Hard-Hitting Slugger. Color Pinup: Michael Spinks. Also: Holmes, Holyfield, McCallum-Curry, Calendar.

June 1986: Heavyweight Tourney: Holmes vs. Spinks—The Best Fight Of The Series . . . Or the *Last* Fight Of The Series? Color Pinup: Julio Cesar Chavez. Also: Curry, Tyson, Paul Gonzales.

July 1986: Tyson, McGuigan, Hagler: The Stars Catch Fire And Boxing Is Hot Again! Color Pinup: Azumah Nelson. Also: Camacho-Chavez.

Aug. 1986: Hagler Feasts On The Beast, But He Hungers For More. Color Pinup: Thomas Hearns. Also: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Biggs, Qawi.



SEPTEMBER 1986

Sept. 1986: Barry McGuigan Conquers America. Color Pinup: Dwight Qawi. Also: Sugar Ray, Bramble, Spinks-Cooney.

Oct. 1986: They're Back!!! The Cooney Circus Returns. Sugar Ray, Tyson, Curry, Paul, Pryor-Arguello.

Nov. 1986: Hector Camacho's Turning Point: Getting Better . . . Or Getting Worse? Color Pinup: Mike Tyson. Also: Duran, Cruz-McGuigan, Chavez.

Dec. 1986: Larry Holmes' Message To Mike Tyson: "Show Me You Can Kick My Butt!" Color Pinup: Mark Breland. Also: Holyfield, Witherspoon, Little Red Lopez.

Jan. 1987: Sugar Ray: Can He Upset Hagler? Color Pinup: Evander Holyfield. Also: Pazienza, Whitaker, Tyson, Spinks.

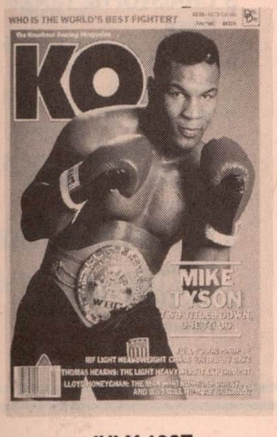
Feb. 1987: Upset Of The Decade: Has Honeyghan Cut Short The Curry Era? Color Pinup: Marvin Johnson. Also: Czyz, Rosario, Camacho.

March 1987: Vinny Pazienza: The Pazmanian Devil Is Ready To Horn In On The Title. Four-Page Color Section: Year In Review. Also: KO Achievement Awards, Sugar Ray-Hagler, Rosario-Bramble.

April 1987: Tyson! Spectacular Triumph, Spectacular Future. Color Pinup: Tyson vs. Berbick. Also: Mancini, Overrated & Underrated, Marciano.

May 1987: Hagler vs. Leonard: Who Will Win And Why. Color Pinup: Edwin Rosario. Also: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Leonard-Hagler, Czyz, Haugen.

June 1987: New WBA Welterweight Champion Mark Breland: He's Got A Lot To Smile About. Color Pinup: Greg Haugen. Also: Tyson-Spinks, Sugar Ray-Hagler, Olajide.



JULY 1987

July 1987: Mike Tyson: Two Titles Down, One To Go. Color Pinup: Bobby Czyz. Also: Honeyghan, Hearns, Olajide, Best Fighter Poll.

Aug. 1987: Sweet Victory! Sugar Ray Humbles Hagler. Color Pinup: Sugar Ray-Hagler. Also: Spinks-Cooney, Holyfield, Curry.

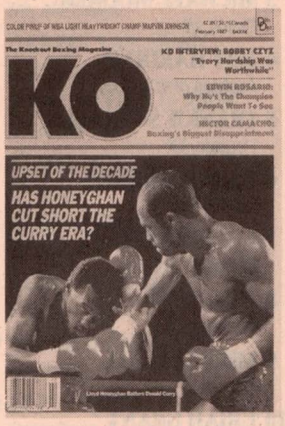
Sept. 1987: Bobby Czyz: Finally, His Accomplishments Match His Appeal. Color Pinup: Sugar Ray. Also: Breland, Camacho, Honeyghan, Weekend Warriors.

Oct. 1987: Greatness Beckons: When Will Mike Tyson Answer The Call? Color Pinup: Michael Olajide. Also: Biggs, Paz-Haugen, Hagler.

Nov. 1987: Michael Spinks: The War With Tyson Is Okay With Him. Color Pinup: Vinny Pazienza. Also: Duarte, Hilton, Hagler-Czyz.

Dec. 1987: Mike Tyson: Undisputed Heavyweight King—But Is He Losing His Loyal Subjects? Color Pinup: Matthew Hilton. Also: Pryor, McCallum, McGuigan.

Jan. 1988: Starling Wins WBA Welterweight Title: Why Breland Never Hit The Mark Of Greatness. Color Pinup: Michael Spinks. Also: Nunn, The Lightweights, Pryor.



FEBRUARY 1987

Feb. 1988: Pazienza & Haugen Go For Each Other's Throats. Color Pinup: Marlon Starling. Also: Tate-Olajide, Arum, ESPN Boxing.

March 1988: Sugar Ray Leonard: Fighter Of The Year. Color Pinup: Year In Review. Also: KO Achievement Awards, Chandler, Hearns-Roldan, Tyson-Spinks, Hagler.

April 1988: KO Interview—Michael Spinks: "Let's Settle It, Tyson!" Color Pinup: Thomas Hearns. Also: Chavez-Rosario, Holyfield-Qawi, Charles Williams, Davey Moore.

May 1988: KO Exclusive—Mike Tyson, As Only Mike Tyson Knows Him. Color Pinup: Mike McCallum. Also: Tyson-Spinks Poll, Hearns, Dokes, Virgil Hill.

June 1988: Can Mike Tyson Be The Successor To The Ali/Leonard Legacy? Color Pinup: Virgil Hill. Also: KO Interview: George Foreman, Haugen-Paz II.

July 1988: Superfight History Dictates: Don't Expect The Expected From Tyson-Spinks Color Pinup: Roger Mayweather. Also: Roberto Duran, Azumah Nelson, Barkley-Olajide.

August 1988: Tyson-Spinks: *KO's* Fearless Forecast Of Superfight '88 Color Pinup: Buddy McGirt. Also: Lockridge-Knight, Evander Holyfield, Lloyd Honeyghan.

Sept. 1988: The Aftermath: What If Spinks Wins? What If Tyson Wins? Color Pinup: Frank Tate. Also: Barry McGuigan, Marlon Starling, Simon Brown.

Oct. 1988: Middleweight Terrorism: Iran Bombs The Hit Man Color Pinup: Don Lalonde. Also: Frank Bruno, Roger Mayweather, Marvin Hagler.

Nov. 1988: The 91-Second Slaughter; How Tyson Destroyed Spinks Color Pinup: Mike Tyson. Also: Azumah Nelson, Iran Barkley.

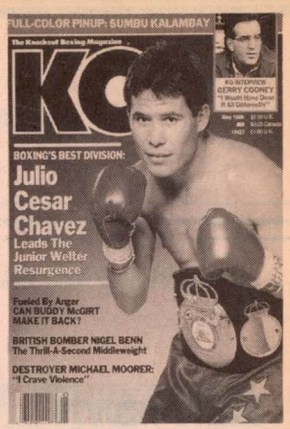
Dec. 1988: Sugar Ray's Comeback: Why? Color Pinup: Simon Brown. Also: Michael Nunn, Lloyd Honeyghan, Marlon Starling, Kevin Rooney.

Jan. 1989: The Troubled Times Of Mike Tyson Color Pinup: Lloyd Honeyghan. Also: Meldrick Taylor, Jeff Fenech, Gil Clancy, Boxing's Champs.

Feb. 1989: George Foreman Is Born Again Color Pinup: Meldrick Taylor. Also: The Olympics, Davey Hilton, John Mugabi, Barry McGuigan.

March 1989: Older And Bolder: Ray Leonard Polishes Off The Golden Boy Color Pinup: Roberto Duran. Also: J.C. Chavez, Vinny Pazienza, Robert Hines.

April 1989: Great In '88: KO Presents The Best Of The Year Color Pinup: Camera Classics. Also: Evander Holyfield, Floyd Patterson.



MAY 1989

May 1989: Julio Cesar Chavez Leads The Junior Welterweight Resurgence Color Pinup: Sumbu Kalambay. Also: Michael Moorer, Nigel Benn.

June 1989: Schoolboy Darrin Van Horn: Not Doing It By The Book Color Pinup: Ray Leonard. Also: Whitaker-Haugen, Alex Wallau.

July 1989: The Bruno Fight Reveals Mike Tyson Can Be Beaten! Color Pinup: Pernell Whitaker. Also: Duran, Leonard, & Hearns, Holyfield-Dokes.

Sept. 1989: "I Beat Up Tyson Before, I'll Do It Again," by Carl Williams Color Pinup: Michael Nunn. Also: Chavez-Mayweather, Brian Mitchell, Marv Albert.

Oct. 1989: Redemption (Sort Of)—Hearns Rips Leonard . . . And Gets Ripped Off Color Pinup: J.C. Chavez. Also: Barry McGuigan, Tony Lopez.

Nov. 1989: The Real Duran; The Stories Behind The Legend Color Pinup: Orlando Canizales. Also: Mike Trainer, Edwin Rosario, Rosi-Van Horn.

Dec. 1989: Now Who's The Leader Of The Middleweight Pack? Color Pinup: Julian Jackson. Also: Ray Mercer, Leonard-Duran III, Best Fighter Poll.

KO MAGAZINE

☐ DEC/81 ☐ APR/82 ☐ JUN/82 ☐ AUG/82 ☐ SEPT/82 ☐ OCT/82 ☐ NOV/82 ☐ MAR/83 ☐ APR/83 ☐ MAY/83 ☐ JUN/83 ☐ JUL/83 ☐ AUG/83 ☐ SEPT/83 ☐ OCT/83 ☐ DEC/83 ☐ JAN/84 ☐ MAR/84 ☐ MAY/84 ☐ JUL/84 ☐ AUG/84 ☐ SEPT/84

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THE RING RATINGS

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1 MIKE TYSON
Catskill, NY *(World Champ)*

2 EVANDER HOLYFIELD
Atlanta, GA

3 ORLIN NORRIS
Campo, CA

4 MICHAEL DOKES
Las Vegas, NV

5 FRANCESCO DAMIANI
Italy

6 TIM WITHERSPOON
Philadelphia, PA

7 BUSTER DOUGLAS
Columbus, OH

8 CARL WILLIAMS
White Plains, NY

9 RAZOR RUDDOCK
Canada

10 GARY MASON
England

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 195 pounds

1 CARLOS DeLEON
Puerto Rico *(WBC Champ)*

2 TAOUFIK BALBOULI
France

3 DWIGHT MUHAMMAD QAWI
Cherry Hill, NJ

4 GLENN McCRORY
England *(IBF Champ)*

5 NATE MILLER
Philadelphia, PA

6 PATRICK LUMUMBA
Kenya

7 SAMMY REESON
England

8 ROBERT DANIELS
Miami, FL

9 CRAIG BODZIANOWSKI
Chicago, IL

10 ANACLET WAMBA
France

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1 VIRGIL HILL
Las Vegas, NV *(WBA Champ)*

2 PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS
Broomall, PA *(IBF Champ)*

3 MICHAEL MOORER
Detroit, MI

4 JEFF HARDING
Australia *(WBC Champ)*

5 FRANKIE SWINDELL
Houston, TX

6 DENNIS ANDRIES
Detroit, MI

7 LESLIE STEWART
Trinidad & Tobago

8 JOE LASISI
Las Vegas, NV

9 MIKE SEDILLO
Chino, CA

10 URIAH GRANT
Miami Beach, FL

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGH
Weight Limited: 168 pounds

1 RAY LEONARD
Potomac, MD *(WBC Champ)*

2 THOMAS HEARNS
Las Vegas, NV

3 FRANK TATE
Houston, TX

4 IN CHUL BAEK
South Korea *(WBA Champ)*

5 CHRISTOPHE TIOZZO
France

6 JAMES KINCHEN
San Diego, CA

7 TONY BYRD
Los Angeles, CA

8 TARMO UUSIVIRTA
Finland

9 FULGENCIO OBELMEJIAS
Venezuela

10 VICTOR CORDOVA
Panama

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 135 pounds

1 PERNELL WHITAKER
Norfolk, VA *(IBF & WBC Champ)*

2 EDWIN ROSARIO
Puerto Rico *(WBA Champ)*

3 GREG HAUGEN
Henderson, NV

4 JOSE LUIS RAMIREZ
Mexico

5 FREDDIE PENDLETON
Miami, FL

6 JOHN DUPLESSIS
New Orleans, LA

7 TRACY SPANN
Plainfield, NJ

8 DAVID GONZALES
San Jose, CA

9 LOUIE LOMELI
Melrose Park, IL

10 CHIL SUNG CHUN
South Korea

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 130 pounds

1 AZUMAH NELSON
Ghana *(WBC Champ)*

2 BRIAN MITCHELL
South Africa *(WBA Champ)*

3 JOHN-JOHN MOLINA
Puerto Rico *(IBF Champ)*

4 TONY LOPEZ
Sacramento, CA

5 LUPE SUAREZ
Corpus Christi, TX

6 MARIO MARTINEZ
Mexico

7 GENARO HERNANDEZ
Los Angeles, CA

8 CALVIN GROVE
Pottstown, PA

9 JUAN LaPORTE
New York, NY

10 ROCKY LOCKRIDGE
Mount Laurel, NJ

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 126 pounds

1 ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA
Venezuela *(WBA Champ)*

2 JEFF FENECH
Australia *(WBC Champ)*

3 JORGE PAEZ
Mexico *(IBF Champ)*

4 MAURIZIO STECCA
Italy

5 MARCOS VILLASANA
Mexico

6 GEORGIE NAVARRO
Vineland, NJ

7 LUPE GUTIERREZ
San Jose, CA

8 LOUIE ESPINOZA
Phoenix, AZ

9 TROY DORSEY
Dallas, TX

10 RICARDO CEPEDA
Bronx, NY

JR. FEATHERWEIGHT
Weight limit: 122 pounds

1 DANIEL ZARAGOZA
Mexico *(WBC Champ)*

2 JUAN JOSE ESTRADA
Mexico *(WBA Champ)*

3 SEUNG HOON LEE
South Korea

4 FABRICE BENICHOU
France *(IBF Champ)*

5 KENNY MITCHELL
Houston, TX

6 PEDRO DECIMA
Argentina

7 PAUL BANKE
Quail Valley, CA

8 JOSE SANABRIA
Venezuela

9 MIGUEL LORA
Colombia

10 JESUS SALUD
San Diego, CA

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

- In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.
- Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.
- These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

For Period Ended October 10, 1989

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 160 pounds

1 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Los Angeles, CA *(IBF Champ)*

2 **ROBERTO DURAN**
Miami, FL *(WBC Champ)*

3 **SUMBU KALAMBAY**
Italy

4 **MIKE McCALLUM**
Brooklyn, NY *(WBA Champ)*

5 **IRAN BARKLEY**
Bronx, NY

6 **MICHAEL WATSON**
England

7 **HEROL GRAHAM**
England

8 **MICHAEL OLAJIDE**
New York, NY

9 **STEVE COLLINS**
Brockton, MA

10 **KARAMA LEOTA**
Napa, CA

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 154 pounds

1 **JULIAN JACKSON**
Virgin Islands *(WBA Champ)*

2 **JOHN MUGABI**
Tampa, FL *(WBC Champ)*

3 **GIANFRANCO ROSI**
Italy *(IBF Champ)*

4 **DARRIN VAN HORN**
Lexington, KY

5 **JOHN DAVID JACKSON**
Detroit, MI

6 **TERRY NORRIS**
Campo, CA

7 **ROBERT HINES**
Philadelphia, PA

8 **RENE JACQUOT**
France

9 **DONALD CURRY**
Fort Worth, TX

10 **LUPE AQUINO**
Santa Paula, CA

WELTERWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 147 pounds

1 **MARLON STARLING**
South Windsor, CT *(WBC Champ)*

2 **SIMON BROWN**
Washington, D.C. *(IBF Champ)*

3 **LLOYD HONEYGHAN**
England

4 **MARK BRELAND**
Brooklyn, NY *(WBA Champ)*

5 **TYRONE TRICE**
Detroit, MI

6 **MAURICE BLOCKER**
Washington, D.C.

7 **BUDDY McGIRT**
Brentwood, NY

8 **FUJIO OZAKI**
Japan

9 **GLENWOOD BROWN**
Plainfeild, NJ

10 **AARON DAVIS**
Bronx, NY

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 140 pounds

1 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Mexico *(WBC Champ)*

2 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Philadelphia, PA *(IBF Champ)*

3 **JUAN COGGI**
Argentina *(WBA Champ)*

4 **ROGER MAYWEATHER**
Las Vegas, NV

5 **SAMMY FUENTES**
Puerto Rico

6 **RAS-I BRAMBLE**
Hampton Township, NJ

7 **LORETO GARZA**
Sacramento, CA

8 **HECTOR CAMACHO**
Big Cypress, FL

9 **FRANKIE RANDALL**
Morristown, TN

10 **VINNY PAZIENZA**
Cranston, RI

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 118 pounds

1 **RAUL PEREZ**
Mexico *(WBC Champ)*

2 **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
Laredo, TX *(IBF Champ)*

3 **KAOKOR GALAXY**
Thailand *(WBA Champ)*

4 **GERARDO MARTINEZ**
San Jose, CA

5 **ISRAEL CONTRERAS**
Venezuela

6 **MOON SUNG KIL**
South Korea

7 **KELVIN SEABROOKS**
Charlotte, NC

8 **FERNIE MORALES**
Mexico

9 **HURLEY SNEAD**
Detroit, MI

10 **WILFREDO VASQUEZ**
Puerto Rico

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 115 pounds

1 **GILBERTO ROMAN**
Mexico *(WBC Champ)*

2 **KHAOSAI GALAXY**
Thailand *(WBA Champ)*

3 **ELLY PICAL**
Indonesia *(IBF Champ)*

4 **JOSE RUIZ**
Puerto Rico

5 **SANTOS LACIAR**
Argentina

6 **ROLANDO BOHOL**
Philippines

7 **THANOMSAK SITHBAOBEY**
Thailand

8 **YONG HEUN LEE**
South Korea

9 **COBRA ARI BLANCA**
Philippines

10 **SHUNICHI NAKAJIMA**
Japan

FLYWEIGHTS

Weight limit: 112 pounds

1 **SOT CHITALADA**
Thailand *(WBC Champ)*

2 **JESUS ROJAS**
Venezuela *(WBA Champ)*

3 **FIDEL BASSA**
Colombia

4 **JUNG KOO CHANG**
South Korea

5 **DAVE McAULEY**
Ireland *(IBF Champ)*

6 **YONG KANG KIM**
South Korea

7 **DUKE McKENZIE**
England

8 **RAMON MEDEL**
San Antonio, TX

9 **HO CHOI CHANG**
South Korea

10 **DODIE PENALOSA**
Philippines

POUND FOR POUND

Boxing's 10 Best Fighters, Pound For Pound

1 **MIKE TYSON**
Heavyweight

2 **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
Junior Welterweight

3 **PERNELL WHITAKER**
Lightweight

4 **MICHAEL NUNN**
Middleweight

5 **ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA**
Featherweight

6 **AZUMAH NELSON**
Junior Lightweight

7 **MELDRICK TAYLOR**
Junior Welterweight

8 **RAUL PEREZ**
Bantamweight

9 **EVANDER HOLYFIELD**
Heavyweight

10 **GILBERTO ROMAN**
Junior Bantamweight

KATZ SCAN

A ONE-RING CIRCUS

By Michael Katz

IT HAS COME to this: No one this side of contestants on *Jeopardy!* knows *all* the world champions in boxing. You'd have to be capable of memorizing the Manhattan phone book to keep up with all the Joneses and Kims.

Enough already.

The saturation point was passed with the creation of WBA-Americas, WBC-Antarcticas, and IBF Northwest South Bend titles. It is time to restructure the game, to restore past glory to the phrase, "champion of the world." And here is a *Ring* Plan to end the three-ring circus.

If columnist Mike Katz' Supreme Champion idea is implemented, heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will only have to wear *one* title belt into the ring.

The beauty of the plan is that it does not deal with the corruption and incompetence of the sanctioning bodies. On the contrary, in a stroke of pragmatism, it allows them to flourish. It gives the alphabet boys their slices of the pie and guarantees that the pie will be bigger. It is simply a formula to give boxing structure, to give it the equivalent of leagues and playoffs and to remove the chaos.

It would set up Super Bowl tournaments and World Series in all divisions—constantly, not just on a once-a-year basis. It will make it possible for the average fan to keep score, to identify with *real* champions.

The formula is simple.

Let the WBA, WBC, and IBF maintain their titles. (Add the WBO, if agreed upon by the first three, since four champions are more easily divisible.) But impose over them a Supreme Champion, the *real* boss, who would then have to defend against the lesser champions on a rotating basis.

Let's take the two examples from the heavyweight and light heavyweight divisions.

Mike Tyson, of course, is already Supreme Champion of the heavyweights, and anyone who recognizes the WBO version, please leave the room right now. Tyson would in effect be "stripped" by the WBC, WBA, and IBF, who would then set up matches for their vacant championships—in essence, league championships—that would provide Tyson with bona fide challengers. It would also

provide the Jose Sulaimans with more sanctioning fees, and promoters and TV networks with more "title" bouts.

The Supreme Champion would then have mandatory defenses against the three new alphabet winners. The sanctioning fees would go two-thirds to the organization, or league, from which the Supreme Champion emerged (if you want to be retroactive, in Tyson's case this would be the WBC), and one-third to the league providing the challenger.

Every six or nine months, with details to be negotiated at a congress of all interested parties, the Supreme Champion would have a mandatory defense. In between, he would be allowed voluntary defenses.

There would be inter-league bouts beneath the Supreme Champion level. For example, there would be no rules preventing all three sanctioning bodies from ranking Evander Holyfield at number one.

Holyfield, in the spirit of boxing's free enterprise system, would be allowed to choose whichever league offered the most attractive bout.

The leagues would be encouraged to upgrade their rankings, since it could affect their coffers. If a league wanted to play politics as usual and, say, rank Jose Ribalta at number one, chances are it wouldn't cash in on Supreme Champion fights other than the mandatory challenge for its pet. A league that chooses the best challengers stands to make a lot more in sanctioning fees. With pay-per-view money that is going to make this century's version of the Gay Nineties a gold rush, no league president worth a cup of coffee is going to want to have a Ribalta representing him in a Supreme Champion bout.

Meanwhile, as they are waiting for shots at the Supreme Champion, the league champions will be required, under their organizations' rules, to defend their own crowns. This should satisfy the cravings of both the TV networks and boxers.

There is no existing Supreme Champion at 175 pounds. There are four light heavyweight "world" champions, if you include the WBO's Michael Moorer.

Two champions paired against two champions. That's a tournament, folks. There need not be a prescribed order of who fights whom first. Let there be a battle royale among promoters to line up the two semifinal bouts that would establish the Supreme Champion. Let some of the charm of wheeling-dealing remain. The winners can bring their own promoters to the table for the Supreme Champion final, while the losers would go back into the pool and probably wind up fighting for one of the vacant league titles.

The world bodies would retain their identities, and maybe even enhance their images. They would have their own ratings and officials. Fighters, of course, could be ranked in all leagues—it would be like the Mets or Dodgers competing, if they wanted to, in the A.L. West or N.L. East, depending on the free market.

There would be constant action in all divisions. It is time boxing moved forward. If the NFL can talk about a world league and baseball can contemplate an alternative to the majors, then boxing must streamline and modernize as a more marketable and comprehensive unit.

It has to be done.

Baseball has expanded from 16 major league teams to 26, from nine men on a side to 10. The NFL, NBA, and NHL have all matched the population explosion. Anyone who thinks boxing should be limited to eight world champions belongs to the Flat Earth Society.

Expansion is necessary, but boxing's has gone off in two directions, and one is a wrong-way street. It's perfectly correct to add weight divisions, junior this and senior that, though the nomenclature must be homogenized to eliminate the confusion between super welterweight and junior middleweight.

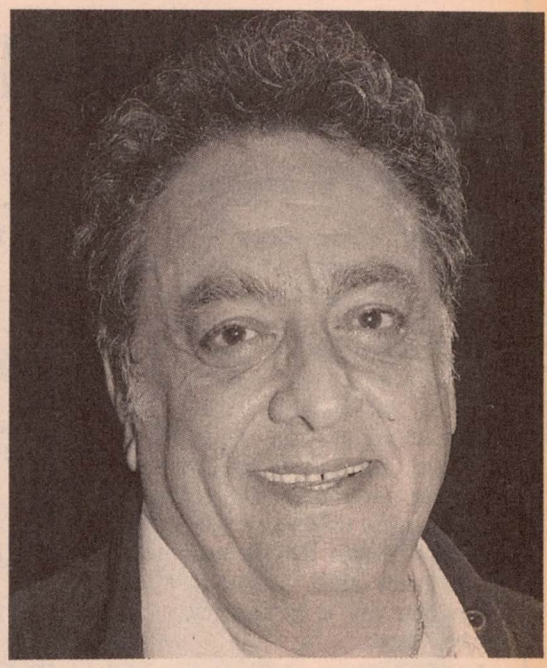
Remember Sonny Werblin's classic line when Madison Square Garden, then under his benign leadership, imported the great Wilfredo Gomez to make a title defense?

"What the hell is a super bantamweight?" Werblin pondered.

At 122 pounds, Gomez was the best in the world for years. At 126, as Salvador Sanchez was to prove, he was just another fine featherweight. Gomez, at least early in his super bantamweight reign, could have sweated down to the bantamweight limit, but at 118 he would have been dangerously weakening himself. (See Johnny Owen and his fatal bantamweight title fight against Lupe Pintor.)

Should a 185-pound fighter have to give away 40 or 50 pounds to heavyweights who grow bigger and bigger with the aid of improved diets and training methods? Or does he have to sap himself and lose 10 pounds to become a light heavyweight?

There are valid economic *and* safety reasons for expanding the number of divisions. The problems begin when we have three or four champions every few ounces. One super bantamweight champion is enough. The American public is so fed up that the *Ring* Plan would be heartily embraced by ticket sales and pay-per-view buys.



The Supreme Champion plan should even satisfy WBC President Jose Sulaiman and his counterparts in boxing's other federations.

But would countries who now prosper under the old system be enticed? Would Mexico give up its preeminence with the WBC? South Korea with the IBF? Panama and Venezuela with the WBA?

I believe so.

Things happen first here, from Coca-Cola to graffiti, then go overseas. That thought, not particularly original, struck me again last summer during a few days' holiday in Amsterdam: Public service posters warn of pickpockets, and curbs are littered with the glass from car windows that carry signs of "No Radio." The world is catching up in ways other than basketball.

It is time for boxing to be in league with itself. It is time to *Ring* in the new. Let the talks begin. □

RYAN

OUT LOUD

MISDIRECTED FURY

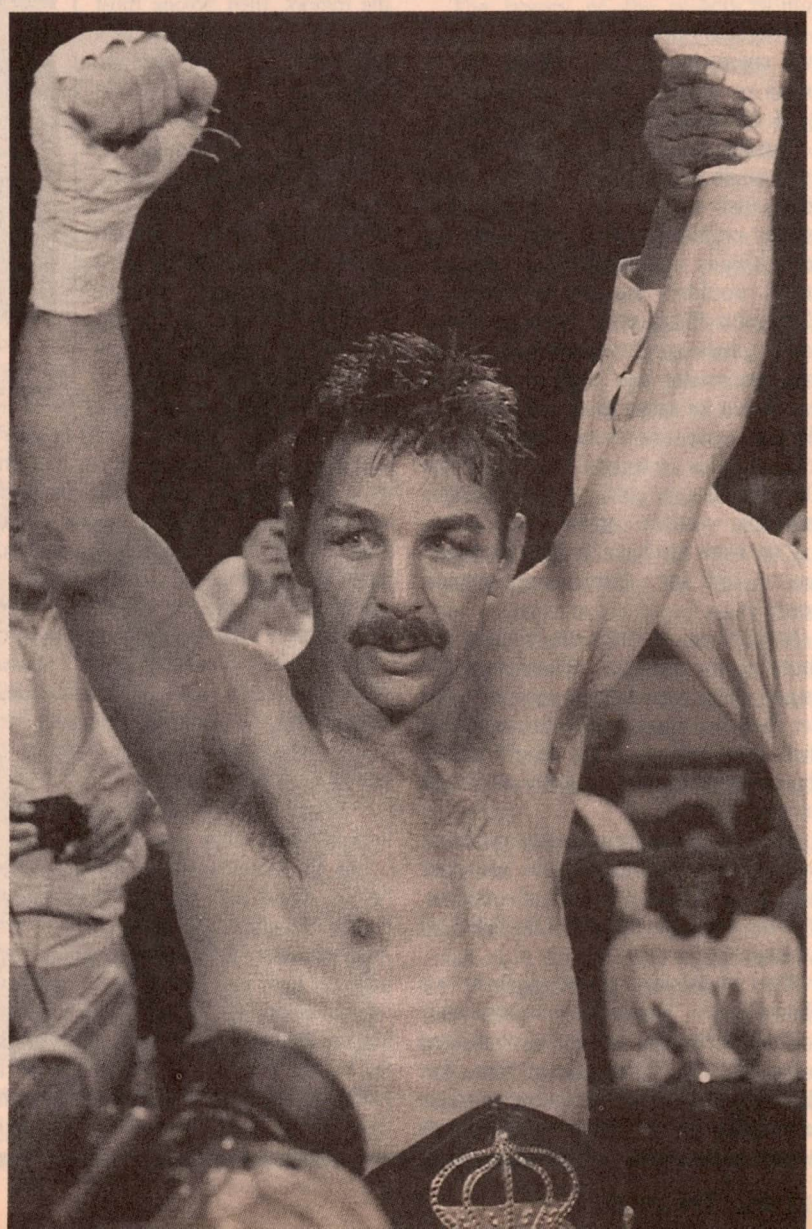
By Jeff Ryan

WHEREVER BOXING'S ultimate road warrior, Brian Mitchell, goes, the unwelcome wagon is sure to be there to greet him. For the WBA junior lightweight king, it has all become part of the prefight routine: train six weeks, get in the required rounds of sparring, walk the gauntlet of protesters, and answer more questions about the government of South Africa than about his three-year reign as world champion. It can start to wear heavily on a man's mind. Especially a man whose only guilt is by association. With his homeland.

In September, the "welcoming" committee was out in full force for Mitchell in Lewiston, Maine. A prefight press conference to hype his title defense against Irving Mitchell at the Central Maine Youth Center brought out a crowd that included the Maine chapter of the NAACP, the Maine Project on Southern Africa, the Bates College African-American Society, and the Maine Rainbow Coalition. Suffice to say, none were there to wish the champion luck and ask for an 8x10 glossy.

The WBA (as well as the WBC) doesn't recognize South Africa because of that country's policy of apartheid. In October 1986, less than two weeks after Mitchell won his title with a knockout of Alfredo Layne in Sun City, Bophuthatswana, the WBA decreed that it would hold no more title fights in South Africa. As a result, Mitchell has been forced to travel to Italy for three of his title defenses, and to Panama, Puerto Rico, France, Spain, England, and Lewiston for the others.

As champion, Mitchell has discovered that you *can't* go home again. But he doesn't seem to be wanted anyplace else, either. He has been greeted by the anti-apartheid protesters on many stops of his world tour. The big



South Africa's Brian Mitchell celebrates after retaining the WBA junior lightweight title for the ninth time with a seventh-round stoppage of Irving Mitchell in Lewiston, Maine.

chill in Lewiston was nothing compared to the reception in London before his defense against Jim McDonnell in 1988, when 200 protesters dropped by to vent their frustrations on the only flesh-and-blood symbol of South Africa that most of them will ever see.

"It gives you a weird outlook on life," Mitchell has said of the hostility he has encountered in his travels. "I haven't particularly liked the foreigners, the individuals I've met."

Politics and sports will be entwined forever. Their marriage, not a shotgun wedding but a machine-gun wedding, was consummated in horrifying fashion one fateful September day in Munich in 1972. But in the case of Mitchell, as in many other instances when the line between politics and sports blurs, the fury of those with a placard to hold aloft or a speech to make is misdirected.

It goes without saying that apartheid in South Africa is an outrage, an atrocity. But the anger should be directed at the people responsible for upholding this vile policy. That's the South African government, not a professional boxer who just happened to be born within South Africa's boundaries, has publicly stated that he opposes apartheid, has moved to San Diego, and whose newborn son, Nathan, is an American citizen.

"I'm not a politician," says Mitchell, who himself hopes to apply for citizenship in the United States. "I'm a sportsman. You cannot choose your birthplace. There is nothing I can do about it."

It's bad enough that this sportsman has been forced out of his homeland for every one of his title fights. But the protesters in Lewiston and London and everywhere else even wanted to deny him the right to fight on foreign soil. What should he do? Learn how to bake pizzas? Pump gas? Some of the same bleeding-heart fans who cry that one-legged cruiserweight Craig Bodzianowski should be allowed to compete because "you can't deny a person his right to make a living," would like to prevent Mitchell from putting food in *his* family's mouth.

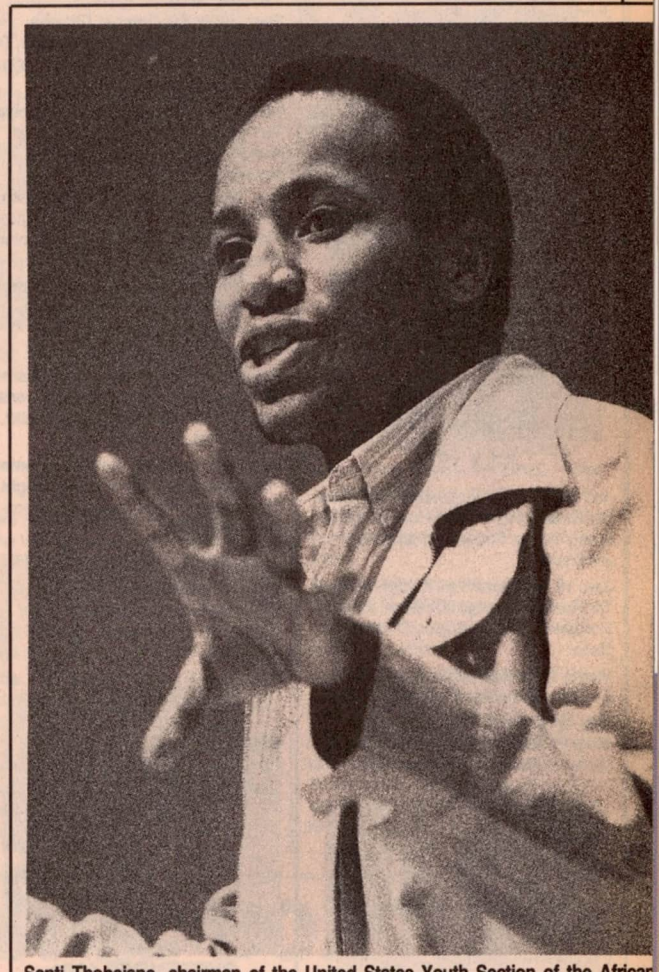
Perhaps Irving Mitchell, himself black, put the situation in its proper perspective when he said, "I understand where they're coming from. It's not right what that country is doing to its people. But boxing . . . it's my living, it's my job. This is how I support my family. I don't see Brian as white or South African. I look at him as a plain human being, just like me. He's trying to make a living, a name for himself."

How strange it is that when a team of amateur fighters from the People's Republic of China arrived at New York's Gleason's Gym this summer to begin training for the 1992 Olympics, not a single protester was there to greet the squad. When promoter Lou Falcigno announced his plans to stage fights involving Soviet boxers in the States, the boxing community hailed this ground-breaking achievement of glass-jaw *glasnost.*

Has everyone forgotten the Chinese government's blood-splattered march through Tiananmen Square? Are we overlooking the fact that the Soviet Union is one of the biggest violators of human rights in the world? Don't misunderstand me, I'm not suggesting that demonstrators flock to the front door of Gleason's Gym or the offices of Lou Falcigno. The Chinese and Russian fighters, after all, are no more responsible for the actions of their respective governments than Brian Mitchell is for apartheid. What I *am* doing, however, is asking, why the double-standard?

It's time to stop dogging Brian Mitchell on the basis of his country's politics. Let's not forget that of far more impact than a banner of protest outside a tiny arena or a speech falling on Mitchell's ears at a press conference will always be the television pictures sent back to South Africa on the nights that Mitchell fights: scenes of blacks and whites sitting side by side, even in the most expensive seats, and enjoying themselves.

South African-born track star Zola Budd was driven to retirement from international competition by her weariness of having to constantly dodge protesters, endure taunts, and answer far more questions about apartheid than about Mary Decker Slaney. What a shame it will be if Brian Mitchell, a man who has proudly held his championship, fought like a sportsman, and brought dignity to the title, would some day be forced to the sidelines in the same manner. To his credit, Mitchell hasn't let his fighting spirit be broken. At least not yet.



Senti Thobejane, chairman of the United States Youth Section of the African National Congress, speaks to a Bates College (Maine) audience in protest of the Mitchell-Mitchell fight.

"This has taken a lot of the joy out of being champion, and I've thought about quitting," he says. "But I don't fight for the WBA or the WBC or the South African government. I fight for my wife and two boys. I'll keep fighting for them."

And, no doubt, keep enduring the wrath of a number of people whose anger and frustration has clouded their better judgment. South Africa be damned, yes, but not *all* South Africans.

And *not* Brian Mitchell. □

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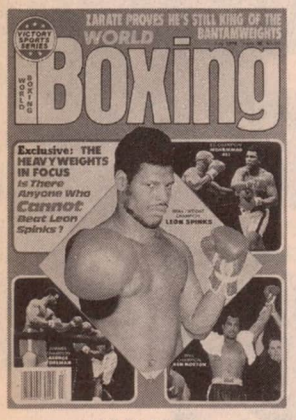

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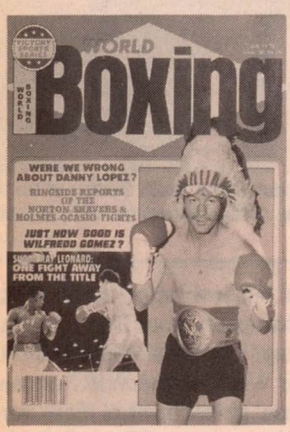

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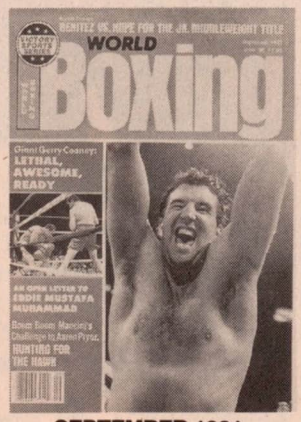

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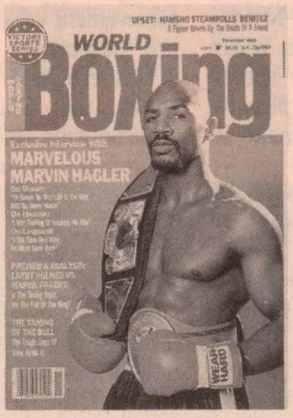

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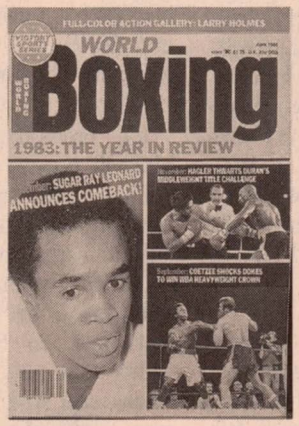

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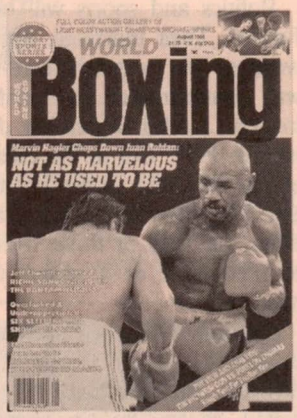

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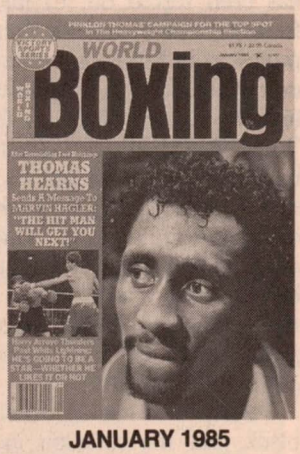

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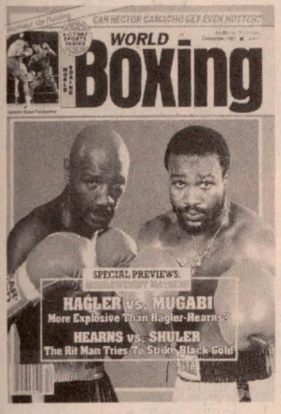

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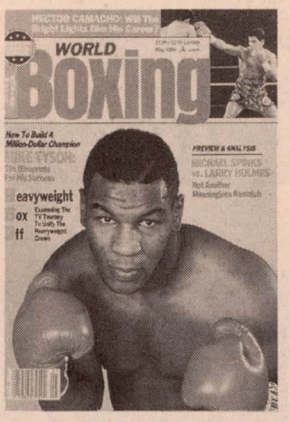

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July 1986: Hagler & Hearns Roar To The Rematch. Plus: Tyson, Lalonde, Curry, Sandoval, Azumah.

August 1986: Spinks-Holmes II: Why Michael Spinks *Didn't* Lose The Title. Plus: McGuigan, Breland, Holyfield-Qawi.

Sept. 1986: Mike Tyson Shows He's Mortal . . . But He's Still Headed For Immortality. Plus: Hilton, Hagler, Pazienza, Frank Bruno, Espinoza.

Oct. 1986: Camacho-Rosario: "Macho" Retains His Title, But Loses His Nickname. Plus: Cooney, Tyson, Olajide, Bramble, Pazienza.

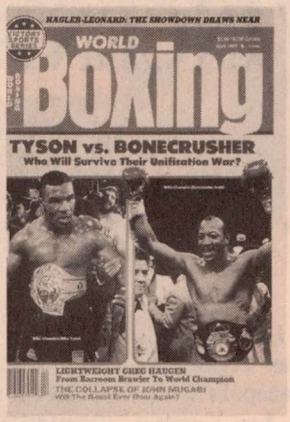
Nov. 1986: *World Boxing* Exclusive: Gerry Cooney Speaks Out. Plus: Tyson-Frazier, Stevie Cruz, Holyfield, McGuigan.

Dec. 1986: Mike Tyson's Drive To The Title: Ruthless, Brutal, Unstoppable. Plus: Hagler-Leonard, Meldrick Taylor, Hearns, Biggs.

Jan. 1987: The Formidable Mike Tyson: Primed For His Title Challenge. Plus: Spinks, Pazienza, Czyz, Honeyghan-Curry, Van Horn.

Feb. 1987: Mark Breland: The Class Of '84. Plus: Hearns, Honeyghan, Camacho-Rosario, Olympians.

March 1987: Year In Review, Marvin Johnson, Tyson-Berbick, Holmes.



APRIL 1987

April 1987: Tyson vs. Bonecrusher: Who Will Survive Their Unification War? Plus: Hagler-Leonard, Haugen, Mugabi, Chavez.

May 1987: Hagler-Leonard: Super Fight Or Super Slaughter? Plus: Tyson, Chris Reid, The Dynamite Dozen.

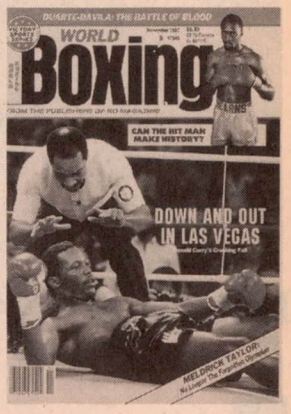
June 1987: Shining Stars: Pazienza, Holyfield, Curry. Plus: Hagler-Leonard, Czyz.

July 1987: After The Bonecrusher Bore: Mike Tyson's Task—Rekindle The Excitement. Plus: Hearns, Foreman's comeback, Biggs, Spinks-Cooney.

Aug. 1987: The Return Of The Sugar Man: After Conquering Hagler, Now Aiming For Hearns? Plus: Boxing Lists, Spinks-Coo-ney, McCallum.

Sept. 1987: Mike Olajide Goes To War: "The Silk" Shows He's More Than Just Style. Plus: Holyfield, Duane Thomas, McCallum, Dream Fights.

Oct. 1987: Vinny Pazienza: Proves He's A Phenom, Not A Phony. Plus: Spinks, Tyson, Truth Williams, Chavez-Rosario.



NOVEMBER 1987

Nov. 1987: Down And Out In Las Vegas: Donald Curry's Crushing Fall. Plus: Duarte-Davila, Hearns, Meldrick Taylor.

Dec. 1987: Tyson vs. Biggs: The Frazier-Ali Of The '80s? Plus: Holyfield, Lora, Shawn O'Sullivan, Hardest Hitters.

June 1989: Ranking Today's Top 30 Fighters. Plus: Taylor-Meekins, Starling-Honeyghan, Leonard-Hearns, Johnny Bos.

August 1989: Leonard-Hearns: Dressed To Kill. Plus: Leonard-Hearns color insert, Azumah Nelson, Michael Nunn, Larry Holmes.

Oct. 1989: Power: What Gives A Punch Its Crunch. Plus: Powerpuncher color insert, Virgil Hill, Watson-Benn, Emile Griffith, Craig Bodzianowski.

Dec. 1989: On The Money! Mike Tyson Kayos Carl Williams. Plus: Summer Sizzlers color insert, Julian Jackson, Anthony Hembrick, Camacho-Pazienza.

WORLD BOXING

☐ MAY/78	☐ NOV/83	☐ JAN/86	☐ NOV/87
☐ JULY/78	☐ DEC/83	☐ FEB/86	☐ DEC/87
☐ MAR/79	☐ JAN/84	☐ MAR/86	☐ JUNE/89
☐ MAY/79	☐ FEB/84	☐ APR/86	☐ JULY/89
☐ JULY/79	☐ APR/84	☐ MAY/86	☐ AUG/89
☐ SEPT/79	☐ JULY/84	☐ JUNE/86	☐ OCT/89
☐ MAR/80	☐ AUG/84	☐ JULY/86	☐ DEC/89
☐ MAY/80	☐ SEPT/84	☐ AUG/86	
☐ JULY/80	☐ OCT/84	☐ SEPT86	
☐ SEPT/80	☐ NOV/84	☐ OCT/86	
☐ MAR/81	☐ DEC/84	☐ NOV/86	
☐ MAY/81	☐ JAN/85	☐ DEC/86	
☐ JULY/81	☐ FEB/85	☐ JAN/87	
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NEW

FACES

VINCENT PHILLIPS

Photos by Chris Farina and Frank Valeri

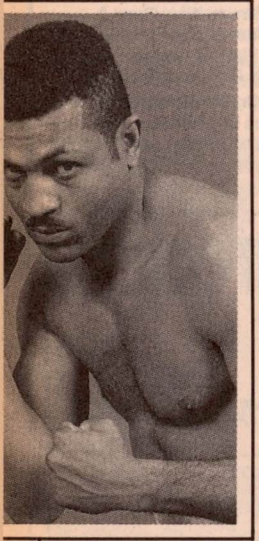
PROFESSIONAL RECORD

Born: July 23, 1963

1989

Feb. 28	Octavio Guardado, Las Vegas	KO 2
April 25	Enrique Ventura, Las Vegas	KO 1
May 16	Ricardo Luna, Indianapolis	KO 1
June 27	Jose Luis Gonzalez, Las Vegas	KO 1
July 18	John Edwards, Las Vegas	KO 2
Aug. 1	Jorge Rivera, Las Vegas	KO 5
Aug. 29	Jorge Hernandez, Las Vegas	W 6
Oct. 10	Jose Nino, Las Vegas	KO 1

RECORD:	FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KO
	8	8	0	0	7



By Robert Cassidy

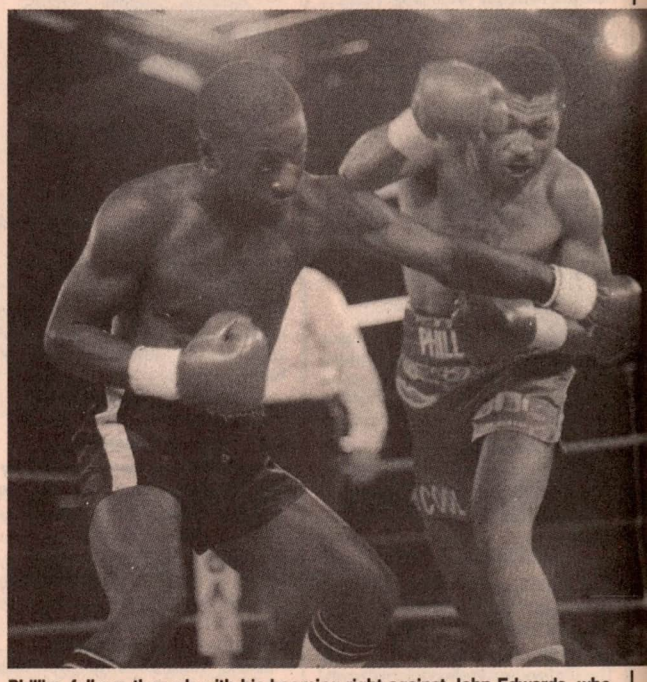
VINCENT PHILLIPS didn't enter the ranks of professional boxing with glamor, hype, and fanfare. Having failed to earn a berth on the 1988 Olympic team, Phillips entered the pro game in relative anonymity. At this stage of his career, however, there are observers who rate him above some of the medalists of Seoul.

"We are extremely high on him," said Top Rank matchmaker Bruce Trampler. "He has the look of a future champion, and we'll give him every opportunity to realize that potential."

Ken Adams, Phillips' Army coach and trainer, is equally impressed with the junior welterweight's future.

"I think he has outstanding potential," said Adams, who continues to work with Phillips. "He has most of the things you look for in a champion."

Those *things* include power, durability, stamina, and the kind of killer instinct that is more appreciated by professional referees and judges than those in amateur boxing.



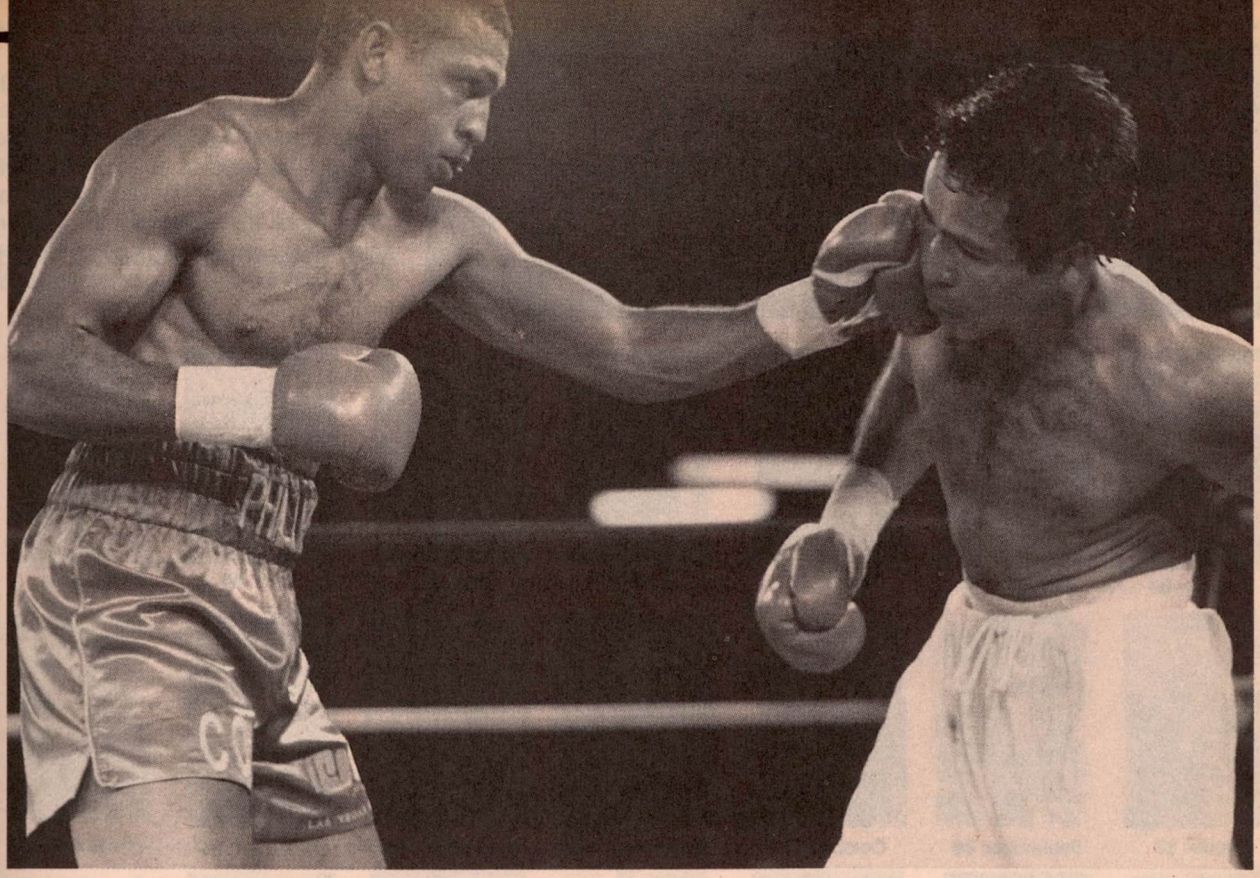
Phillips follows through with his booming right against John Edwards, who crashed violently after just two rounds.

Phillips' amateur career was decorated with a National Golden Gloves title, a USA/ABF title, an all-Army title, and a 90-10 record that included three victories over heralded Olympian Todd Foster. Still, there was no Olympic medal, no prime time TV, no National Anthem.

"I don't let it bother me," he said. "I tell myself, 'Just because I didn't make it to the Olympics doesn't mean I can't be a world champion.' "

Phillips cites Mike Tyson and Michael Nunn, who both lost in the 1984 Olympic Trials, as proof that the lack of a medal doesn't necessarily translate into a lack of mettle.

A native of Pensacola, Florida, where he spent most of his early boxing days training with another 1988 Olympian, Roy Jones Jr., Phillips now fights for the Las Vegas Gloves team under the promotional banner of Top Rank. Since beginning his assault on the 140-pound division in February, he has run his record to 8-0 (7). He describes himself as a boxer-puncher, but adds, "Most people haven't seen me box yet [because] if a guy wants to bang, I'll bang with him."



A left jab connects against Jorge Rivera, who lasted until the fifth round against Phillips in August. Against Rivera, Phillips threw an amazing 587 punches.

While Phillips has been capitalizing on his bang-bang approach, Adams wants to stress other aspects of boxing and begin to develop a 10-round fighter. He wants Phillips to think when he's fighting and try to set up his opponents for his lethal right hand. But those improvements figure to come with experience. For now, Adams' primary concern is to slow Phillips down.

"I want him to work on conserving himself," said Adams. "He throws as many punches in five rounds that most people throw in 10."

An example of Phillips' desire to bunch his punches: In his fifth-round demolition of Jorge Rivera in August, Phillips threw 587 punches and landed an incredible 67 percent. In his first seven fights, he's averaged 100-115 punches per round. Adams would like him to settle for 80-90 punches.

Phillips is often compared to IBF junior welterweight champion Meldrick Taylor. Both fighters batter their opponents with an unending flow of punches. But Phillips' power gives him an added dimension.

"I think he's a combination of several junior welterweight champions," Trampler said. "He has the hand speed of a Meldrick Taylor and the power of Aaron Pryor." Good company for a pro of only eight fights.

With such tremendous offensive potential, it not unusual for an inexperienced fighter to neglect defense. Adams, however, assures that his pupil is not a stereotypical brawler. "He's very much an action fighter," he said. "But I'm happy with his defense. He is defensive-minded."

Phillips also doesn't mind facing the kind of opponents who could potentially test that defense. Before Phillips knocked him out, Rivera had a record of 15-5 and a reputation for knocking off young talent. And in his seventh fight, Phillips cruised to a six-round decision over Jorge Hernandez, a veteran of 33 pro bouts.

"He is one guy that needs a manager," said Trampler. "Phillips will fight anybody in the world, any time. He called the other day and asked about Julio Cesar Chavez. I thought the guy was already punch-drunk."

But nobody questions Phillips' judgment when he talks about a world title fight in 1990. He would like to begin meeting contenders in early 1990, and hopes to take a step in that direction by challenging faded veteran southpaw Robin Blake. A Phillips-Foster matchup would also be enticing. But at this point in their respective careers, it would be a waste of a potentially big-money fight. Phillips will have to be content to maintain his current pace of development.

"I don't believe in timetables," Trampler said. "We evaluate a fighter after each fight and see how he's progressed. I expect that by the end of next year he would be ready for a title shot."

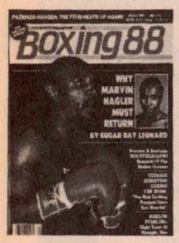
It would seem that the 140-pound division is a good launching pad for a young fighter who is aspiring to cash in on millions of dollars. The division's two marquee attractions, Julio Cesar Chavez and Meldrick Taylor, will square off in early 1990, as will Hector Camacho and Vinny Pazienza. The junior welterweight division is an exciting place to be, and given the quality of the top fighters, that doesn't figure to change in the near future. Phillips plans on being part of that future.

"I think he will become a big attraction," Trampler said. "For two reasons. One, he has talent. But more importantly, he's got a personality. People like him. And that's the key to becoming a box-office hit."

Doesn't sound like a bad future for a kid without a gold medal. □

BACK ISSUES OF BOXING 88/89

Beginning in 1988, this popular magazine went to an all-new format, featuring a fresh look at the fight game through the eyes of its top-notch writers, columnists, and photographers. "The Fight Fan's Magazine" has, in short time, earned recognition as one of the top boxing magazines around.



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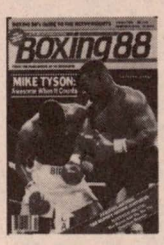

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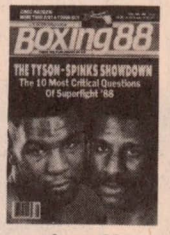

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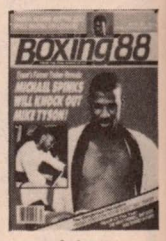

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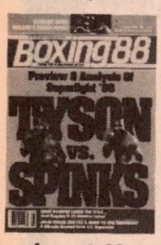

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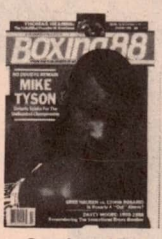

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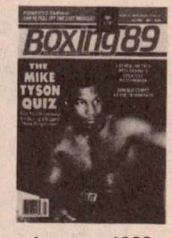

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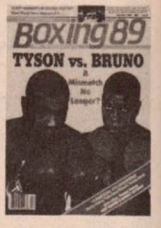

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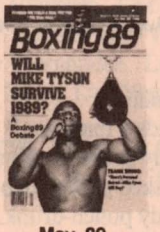

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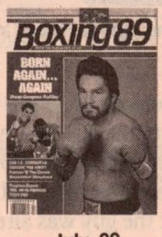

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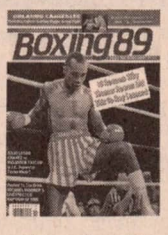

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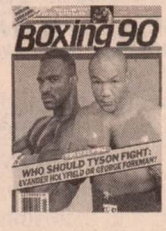

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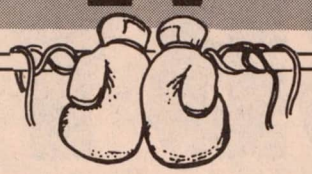


DATE	WINNER/LOSER	DIVISION	NETWORK	SIGNIFICANCE	MATCHUP	RESULT
09/14/89	Aaron Davis W 10 Gene Hatcher *Undefeated but unmotivated Davis ends Texan's career*	w	MSG	B-	B-	C
09/14/89	Art Serwano KO 12 Jesse Flores *Serwano undefeated, but not the crowd-pleasing type*	USBA jm	USA	B+	B-	C+
09/15/89	**Marlon Starling W 12 Yungkil Chung** *Dominant counterpunching performance by champ*	**WBC w**	**SC**	**A**	**B**	**C+**
09/19/89	Ray Mercer KO 2 Arthel Lawhorne *Former light heavy Lawhorne scales gross 239¾!*	h	ESPN	B-	B-	D
09/21/89	Calvin Grove W 10 Ed Pollard *Grove heavier but not particularly more exciting*	l	USA	B-	C+	C
09/25/89	Luis Santana W 10 Jorge Maysonet *Minor upset; anticipated fireworks never surface*	w	SC	C+	B	B-
09/26/89	Brett Lally W 10 Tomas Perez *Stronger Lally overwhelms rated Perez in mild surprise*	jm	ESPN	C	B+	B
09/28/89	Glenwood Brown KO 7 Donovan Boucher *Boucher strangely passive in second consecutive defeat*	w	MSG	B-	B	C+
09/28/89	**Brian Mitchell KO 7 Irving Mitchelll** *Loser willing but not nearly strong enough to brawl*	**WBA jl**	**USA**	**A**	**B-**	**B-**
10/03/89	Kevin Pompey W 10 J.J. Watters *Good efforts, but similar styles make for uneventful bout*	w	ESPN	C-	B-	C
10/05/89	Rodney Moore W 10 Willie Taylor *Network's infatuation with Moore inexplicable*	jw	USA	C-	C-	C+
10/07/89	**John-John Molina KO 10 Tony Lopez** *Molina shuts Lopez' eye, then shuts him out*	**IBF jl**	**NBC**	**A**	**A-**	**C**
10/09/89	Darrin Van Horn W 10 Saleem Muhammad *Van Horn lethargic against obscure foe*	m	SC	C+	C-	C-
10/10/89	Matthew Hilton KO 10 Tim Williams *Hilton in dogfight in middleweight debut*	m	ESPN	B-	B	B+
10/10/89	Engels Pedroza KO 3 Young Dick Tiger *Pedroza's right knocks stripes off Tiger*	w	PT	B-	B+	B+
10/12/89	Kevin Watts W 12 Dwight Davison *Sloppy in spots, but hard-fought throughout*	NABF m	USA	A-	B	B+

Category explanation: "Significance"—The importance of the bout to the division and the fighters' future; "Matchup"—The quality of the fighters and the prefight determination of how their styles will mesh; "Result"—How the bout turned out, from the viewer's perspective.)

Division key: h—heavyweight; c—cruiserweight; lh—light heavyweight; sm—super middleweight; m—middleweight; jm—junior middleweight; w—welterweight; jw—junior welterweight; l—lightweight; jl—junior lightweight; f—featherweight; jf—junior featherweight; b—bantamweight; jb—junior bantamweight; fl—flyweight; jfl—junior flyweight; s—strawweight.)

(World title fights in **bold** *type)*

Network key: PPV—Pay Per View; PT—Prime Ticket; SC—SportsChannel America; Show—Showtime

Going The Distance

BOBBY CZYZ

BOXES WITH THE SHADOWS OF HIS PAST

"I don't break the 11th commandment. I don't bull____ myself"—Bobby Czyz

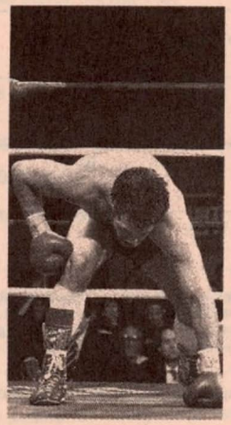
By Jeff Ryan

BOBBY CZYZ, ALL black tie and tales, saunters from table to table, mingling with the regulars at La Cucina, an Italian restaurant in the yuppie enclave of Somerville, New Jersey. In his pocket are some clean ashtrays, in his hand, some menus, on his lips, stories of The Great White Hunter. No, not reminiscences of his ring days, but tales of countless hours in the North Jersey woodlands, when he was unable to move a muscle for fear of scaring off a four-point buck. One wrong move at the wrong time, Czyz explains to a table of diners, could be costly.

It's really no different in the job of restaurant host, either, especially when you've discovered that the muscles you've been building in the first few months of a weightlifting program are making some unrealistic demands on the fibers of your tuxedo. Yesterday, Czyz took a step in the wrong direction and turned a three-piece $1,200 silk suit into a four-piece suit of quite a bit less value. For a guy whose only compensation for 10 to 12 hours on the job each day is an order of lasagna or veal parmigiana, a guy who gives all the tips he receives to the waitresses, going to work can become an expensive proposition.

It's a good thing Czyz isn't spending most of his waking hours at La Cucina in the hope of becoming rich. Well, at least not just yet. His self-imposed two-month restaurant training course, during which he'll do everything from seating customers and taking reservations, to mixing drinks and bussing tables, is designed to prepare him for the opening of his own restaurant next year at a yet-undetermined site in New Jersey.

"I'm looking for something that keeps me involved with people," he explains after the lunch-hour flood of humanity has finally slowed to a trickle. "A good restaurant makes a nice buck, too. I've been acquainted with many restaurateurs, close friends of mine, and I've been in many restaurants around the world on vacation. I've come to like it. If I can get people in my place, I'll keep 'em there. Like I did in boxing, I'll give it my all."



Czyz' last fight: a TKO loss to Prince Charles Williams.

Czyz retired from active combat in March, immedi-

ately following a 10th-round stoppage loss to IBF light heavyweight titlist Prince Charles Williams. There was no formal announcement. No press conference. Just a small party for family and friends at Baja, a Manhattan nightspot. Of course, a few surprise guests managed to drop by. Artist LeRoy Nieman and some of hockey's New Jersey Devils, to name a few.

"Boy George was there, too," Czyz says with a trace of amazement before taking pains to emphasize, "Not that I'm acquainted with *that.*"

When the last few diners have paid their checks and the afternoon lull has set in, Czyz sits down at a table along the wall and removes his jacket. He looks like a prisoner who has just been unshackled.

"You know, I really like wearing a tux," he whispers, "But not every f____ day."

There was a time when he would have killed to wear a tux. That was on May 8, 1980, the night of the Lakeland (New Jersey) Regional High School senior prom, a night Czyz spent wearing a pair of trunks and putting his head on the shoulder of Jamal Arbubakrr, instead of one of Lakeland's cheerleaders. It was Czyz' second pro fight, but perhaps the first real sign many of those close to him had that his infatuation with boxing was more than an after-school hobby.

It soon became clear that Czyz was much different from other fighters. Not because of the "matinee idol" label NBC affixed to him, not because of the heart he displayed in battle, but because of his head. Graduating sixth in his class of 335, and with acceptance letters from Arizona State, Seton Hall, and Rutgers sitting on the same dresser top in his room as his amateur boxing trophies, Czyz had options. Logic dictated that he didn't *have* to get hit in the face for a living.

"Some people are forced to fight from day one just to survive," he once said. "Mine is a temporary game that's only going to last as long as I want it to. Or as long as I'm good at it."

Czyz' game actually lasted much longer than his skills did, which only goes to prove that the would-be premed student is as vulnerable to the grasp of the fight game's tentacles as is the uneducated ghetto tough. His career, which stretched over 39 bouts (34 of them victories), unfolded in two distinct acts: Act One was the middleweight tragedy, capped off by a heartbreaking prime-time defeat to Mustafa Hamsho in 1982. Act Two was the light heavyweight saga, highlighted by a capturing of the IBF light heavyweight crown from Slobodan Kacar in 1986 and three successful defenses, but ending with four losses in his final six bouts.

"My body seemed to have slowed down just a notch," he says of his last two years in the game, a period that saw him floored in a win over Leslie Stewart, outpointed by Dennis Andries and Virgil Hill, and twice stopped by Williams. "That fine edge was missing. It's like a baseball player in the outfield. A guy hits a line drive that falls six feet in front of him. It's not an error, and it doesn't look like a lack of effort, but only he knows that two years earlier, he would have caught that ball. I didn't want to be a boxer who hung around doing dumb things, picking up loose change."

Though Czyz owns a house in Wanaque, New Jersey, and has invested in annuities and tax-free bonds, he says his finances "could be better." Tens of thousands have been spent on what he calls "the toys," fancy cars, the $1,200 silk suits, the diamond rings on his hands, fur coats, and vacations that cost up to $10,000 a week. "The restaurant will make me money," he says. "What the cerebral side of me is doing is opening a business that will be here for years to come."

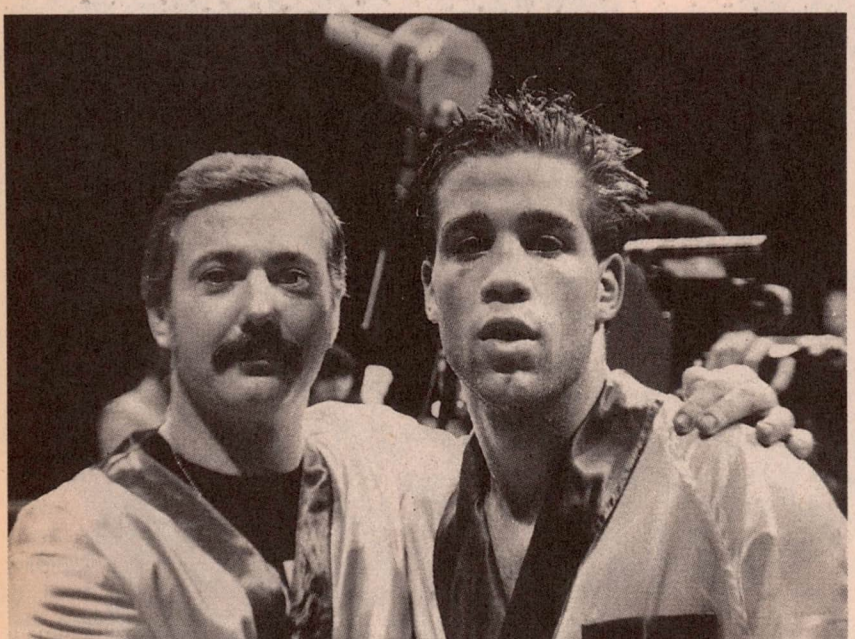
If Czyz' arrival into boxing was a victory of the heart over the head, then retirement represents a triumph of the head over the heart. But the war between the two still wages on, long after the gymbag has been zipped shut and the sequined trunks have been packed away.

For although he is quick to acknowledge the dropoff in his performance in the last two years, he wonders if, "Maybe I just need a rest." He points out that two years away from boxing did wonders for Roberto Duran, then says candidly, "Deep down, I'd really like to maybe come back down the road. If someone said, 'Here's $10,000 to fight this guy, $15,000 for that guy, and if you win, you'll get 75,000,' well, kiss my ass. I'm not gonna give you 10 months of serious hard work for chump change when I can make that in three months in a restaurant and not get hit.

"But if I feel good when I go back in the gym, if there's a logical plan of attack and a big-money offer, I would come back. It's what I love."

He points to his smashed nose, the only alteration boxing has made to an otherwise handsome face. "Bottom line: When my nose is not flat anymore, when I fix it, then you know I'm retired for sure. As long as it's still flat, there's a chance Bobby Czyz is coming back."

The temptation is certainly there. Though he has left boxing, Czyz can't seem to avoid the ring—of his telephone, that is. The offers have included a clash with powerhitting sensation Michael Moorer, a shot at WBC king Jeff Harding in the champ's native Australia, and a bout with the top-10 cruiserweight of his choice. Having



Czyz with his father Robert after the middleweight lost a 10-round decision to top-rated southpaw Mustafa Hamsho in November 1982. It was a crushing loss, but Czyz would rebound to win the light heavyweight crown four years later.

bulked up to 200 pounds, Czyz says that if he returns, campaigning at any weight below cruiser is most unlikely.

"I could really break some balls by bodybuilding up to 220, and saying, 'Hey, Mike [Tyson], do me a favor and make me rich,' " he says with a chuckle. "I teased him about it once. I said, 'Listen, I'm going up to 218 and I'm gonna come out of retirement for *you.*' Mike said, 'Why not, everybody else is making money off me.' "

Czyz reaches for a glass of water and spots the manager of La Cucina walking through the lobby. "How many guys we got on tonight?" Czyz calls out. Five, he is told. The work day started at 11 a.m. and won't end until 11 p.m. It's a fact of life Czyz knows he'll have to get used to in this business, but one he surely doesn't mind. If anything, he relishes it.

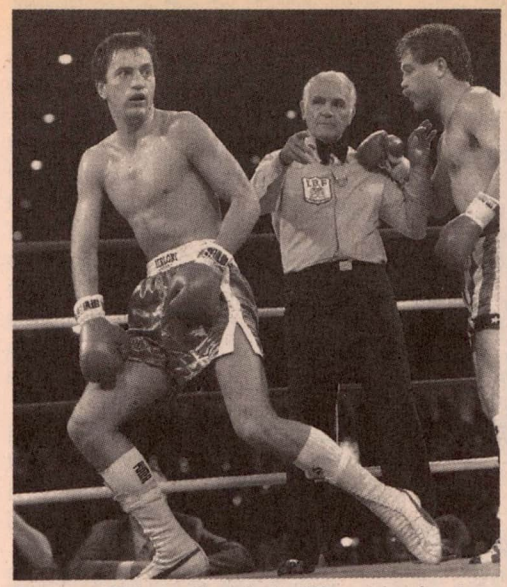
For the restaurant represents not just a future for Czyz, but an escape from the past, one that still haunts him continually. It has been more than six years since the day he walked downstairs in his family's house and found his father, Robert Sr., dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. The suicide put an end to a hellish life that Bobby, his mother, two brothers, and sister had been living.

The product of a broken home, Robert Czyz was obsessed with the idea of keeping his family intact, and in his own bizarre way of thinking, says Bobby, he physically abused them to show his love. The elder Czyz was an overbearing personality, a man unable to relax and have fun. Czyz attributes his success in boxing and the traits he most values in himself—his discipline, mental strength, and independence—to his father's influence. But he also blames his father for robbing him of his childhood.

"I can never remember a time when my whole family was together, my father included, and we all had a good time and were comfortable," he says. "That's sad. Learning the restaurant business has given me something to attack every day. The little things that still taunt me and give me unrest, for 12 hours a day, I can't pay attention to them. I need eight hours sleep, so there's only four hours left to pay attention to anything."

But even in sleep there is no peace. Czyz remains tortured by frequent nightmares, dreams in which his father often appears.

"I had one last week that was terrible," he relates. "They take different forms. There's flashbacks of beatings he gave me, him turning the house in turmoil. In many dreams he comes home and I try to explain to him that he's dead. He goes crazy and doesn't even acknowledge what I'm saying. He's walking, talking, and acting like he always did, but meanwhile, he has a hole in his head.



Czyz stops Slobodan Kacar in the fifth round and captures the IBF 175-pound title in September 1986. He made three defenses before losing to Williams.

"I wake up in a cold sweat, crying. There's days I wake up crying and saying, 'I liked you better when you were dead,' because in the dream he's tearing the house apart, hitting my mother, throwing plates at my face. I wake up nuts. I hate it. But I gotta live with it. I can't reconcile anything. I can't say, 'I'm sorry.' He can't say, 'I'm sorry.' Hopefully, we'll see each other in another lifetime."

To this day, Czyz is discovering that he's haunted by his father in ways he never imagined. "He cost me some things after his death that he had no idea he could cost me," he says. Asked to elaborate, he pauses. "My fiancee. The single biggest regret I have. Nothing's ever affected me quite the way that did."

Czyz and Myra Zappia, a schoolteacher from Freehold, New Jersey, were engaged in May 1988 and scheduled to be married this past September. They broke up in January, in large part, Czyz says, because his fiancee couldn't tolerate the bad habits and codes of ethics Robert Czyz had instilled in his oldest son.

"I was overbearing, old school; the man's the man in the family and that's it," he says. "I would tell her something to the effect of, 'As time progresses, and we have decisions to make, if we can't compromise, it's my decision. Period.' It was just something my father taught me, and at the time, it popped into my head and I thought it was right. I'd say, 'I'm the man, I'm bringing X-number of dollars into the house, and this is what I expect of you.' I didn't mean it that way, but . . . By the time I came to realize what a good person I had, she was gone."

"Bobby was very much a man's man," Zappia said in a telephone interview. "I didn't get that idea when I first met him, but as time went on, the whole way that he was raised came out. I remember one time we had a discussion—it was really weird—about what kind of woman Bobby's father thought [Bobby] should be involved with. Like she should be a certain height 'cause it would make for taller children. His father was hung up on strange things. A lot of his influence was in Bobby. When I was going out with him, everything was very much *his* way or no way."

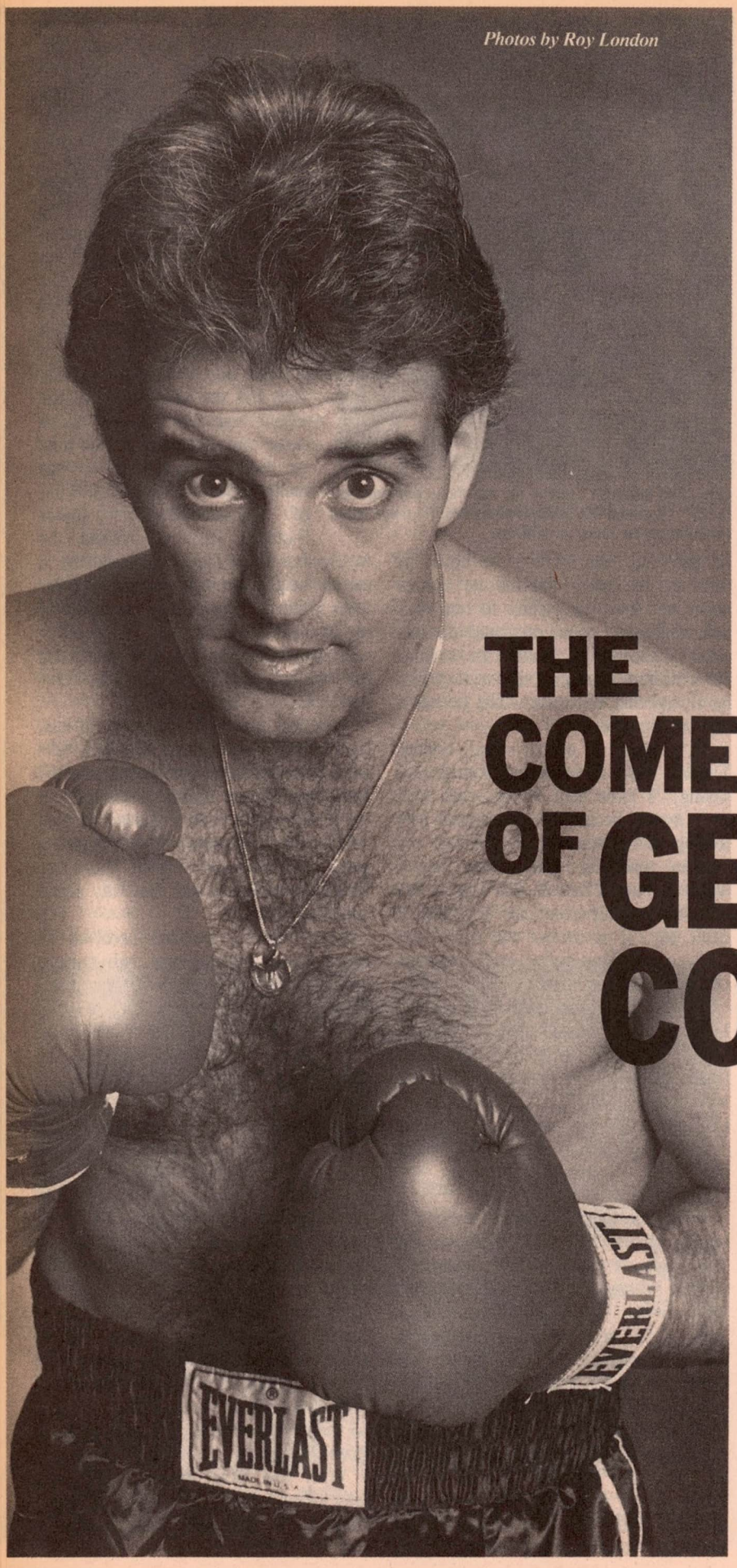
As Czyz speaks of the love he lost, his voice becomes soft, his eyes take on a faraway look. One senses that the hurt hasn't even begun to dissipate.

"I'm brighter than I showed in that relationship," he says. "I've changed a great deal since then. Even if it's not her, I just want to feel that way about someone again."

Czyz recently became involved in another relationship, one with quite a bit less passion, but a lot fewer arguments. He's also entertaining a series of TV commercial offers, and right now seems a good bet to land the analyst's job when Trump Sports and Entertainment, a new cable system, begins televising regular boxing cards from the Taj Mahal, Donald Trump's soon-to-open jewel on the Atlantic City Boardwalk. Czyz' roller-coaster life seems headed upward again.

As Czyz leans back in his chair, he notices that a family has just entered the restaurant. He quickly rises and leads them to a table, while a photographer trails the group every step of the way. As he hands the guests their menus, Czyz notices the bewildered expressions on their faces. "Oh," he says to them with a smile, "I used to be a boxer."

With that nose apparently a long way from being fixed, it's a safe bet they would have eventually figured it out for themselves. □



Photos by Roy London

THE COMEBACK OF GERRY COONEY

A New Voice, But The Same Old Song?

By Nigel Collins

WILL WONDERS NEVER cease? Gerry Cooney is back, and judging by the size of his paycheck, boxing is delighted to have him.

This latest coming of the gentle giant from Long Island has surprised a lot of people. The last time fans saw Cooney, Michael Spinks was pounding his face into something resembling mashed potatoes. Their June 1987 fracas in Atlantic City ended with Gentleman Gerry back where he had been during the previous 12 months—on the sidelines. It seemed likely he'd stay there, especially considering the way Spinks subsequently crumbled so quickly against Mike Tyson. Tyson-Spinks was hardly the sort of result that would instill confidence in Cooney's fragile psyche, let alone inspire a comeback. But here he is again, eager to play straight man to George Foreman for a reported purse of at least $1-million.

The fact that Cooney can come off such a devastating loss (not to mention a 2½-year sabbatical) and still command such a princely purse speaks volumes for the state of boxing today. But what does it say about Cooney? Why, at age 33 and reportedly well-to-do, is he once more willing to risk life, limb, and monumental embarrassment?

"I decided to come back because I've come to peace with the past, and I'm ready to move on," Cooney said shortly after signing for the Foreman bout. "I

need to start fresh. In the past, I put a lot of things on my back. I felt a need to take care of my family. But even in nature, the birds eventually push their babies out of the nest. Sure, you can always give direction, but everyone has to find their own way in life. This time I'm doing it for myself."

Sound familiar? It should. It's just about the same refrain Cooney has offered each time he's launched a comeback during a 28-2 (24 kayos) professional career that stretches back to February 1977. Can things possibly turn out any differently this time? Hasn't Cooney already run out of tomorrows? Apparently not. According to CBS boxing analyst Gil Clancy, who has replaced Cooney's long-standing trainer Victor Valle for the Foreman fight, Gerry's still got what it takes to make up for lost time.

"Gerry has convinced me he's changed," said Clancy, who hasn't trained a fighter since Rodrigo Valdes was middleweight champion in the late '70s. "He's always had a lot of potential, but never took full advantage of it. Tom Mara, a Long Island businessman, has had a big influence on him and helped Gerry turn his life around."

Even with Clancy in his corner, there are plenty of serious doubts surrounding Cooney's latest dalliance with the sweet science. Cooney is probably the most psychoanalyzed heavyweight since Floyd Patterson, and not without some justification. Despite his size and prodigious punching power, the soft-spoken Irish-American never fit the classic fighter's mold. Pushed into boxing by a domineering father, Cooney rarely seemed sure of himself or comfortable in his role as boxing's preeminent "white hope" of the last decade.

"I came from a disfunctional family," Cooney candidly admits. "I had an abusive father. He would sometimes take out his frustration of his family. Also, like a lot of athletes, I had a difficult time growing up. I never had to make a decision for myself. All I had to do was train and perform. My emotional growth was slow. I found lots of reasons for not looking in the mirror and taking a good look at where I was as a person."

The sad truth is that nobody was too worried about Cooney's mental health during the rush of euphoria that accompanied his first four years as a pro. In the beginning, it was enough that he was a charismatic, undefeated puncher racing toward a showdown with Larry Holmes. He was treated like a product: manufactured, marketed, and sold. But when Holmes stopped him in the 13th round of their 1982 title fight, Cooney's problems suddenly caught up with him. But seven years later, one of the refreshing changes in Cooney is that he's no longer singing the blues.

"I've did my best with what I had," he said philosophically. "We can all look back and kick. But I try not to because I've learned that life is a growing process."

When his career turned sour following the Holmes loss, Cooney tried to soothe his wounded ego with alchohol and drugs, which only compounded his troubles.

"I got caught up in alcohol," Cooney readily confessed. "But one morning I woke up and didn't feel too well. The next day it was the same way. I had to ask myself, 'Who's in charge here?' I wasn't an everyday drinker, but I was drinking enough that I realized it was time to get myself together."

Another new motivating factor in Cooney's life is his 10-month-old son, Christopher Gerald. Pappa Cooney would like nothing more than a victory over Foreman to help celebrate his son's first birthday. But let's be realistic: Cooney may have beaten booze and come to peace with himself, but it's doubtful either of these laudable victories will help him once the bell rings. Foreman isn't what he used to be, but he's been a helluva lot more active than Cooney the last two years and still presents the guy in the other corner with a hefty proposition. And while wags have labeled the January 15 bout in Atlantic City "Two Old Geezers at Caesars," oddsmakers have installed Big George the early 2-1 betting favorite.

"It's a very interesting fight," Cooney said of the match many critics consider an outright farce. "People want to see what George Foreman is about. They want to know if he merits a shot at Mike Tyson. I'm the guy in his way. Foreman is a very powerful man, but I think he's got the perfect style for me."

Though he still has a constituency, Cooney's popularity has declined over the years. On several occasions, he's been booed when introduced from ringside. Perhaps the best indication of Cooney's newfound maturity is the way he accepts the lack of total enthusiasm afforded him these days.

"I understand it," he said. "I understand that people are tired of hearing about the turmoil in my life. They're tired of feeling sorry for Gerry Cooney. I don't need to talk about this stuff anymore. I need to fight—and win."

Amen. □

(Nigel Collins is the former editor of The Ring)

Gil Clancy addresses the media at the press conference announcing January's Cooney-Foreman battle. At the far right is Tom Mara, the Long Island businessman who has been instrumental in guiding Cooney.

TYSON!

By Steve Farhood

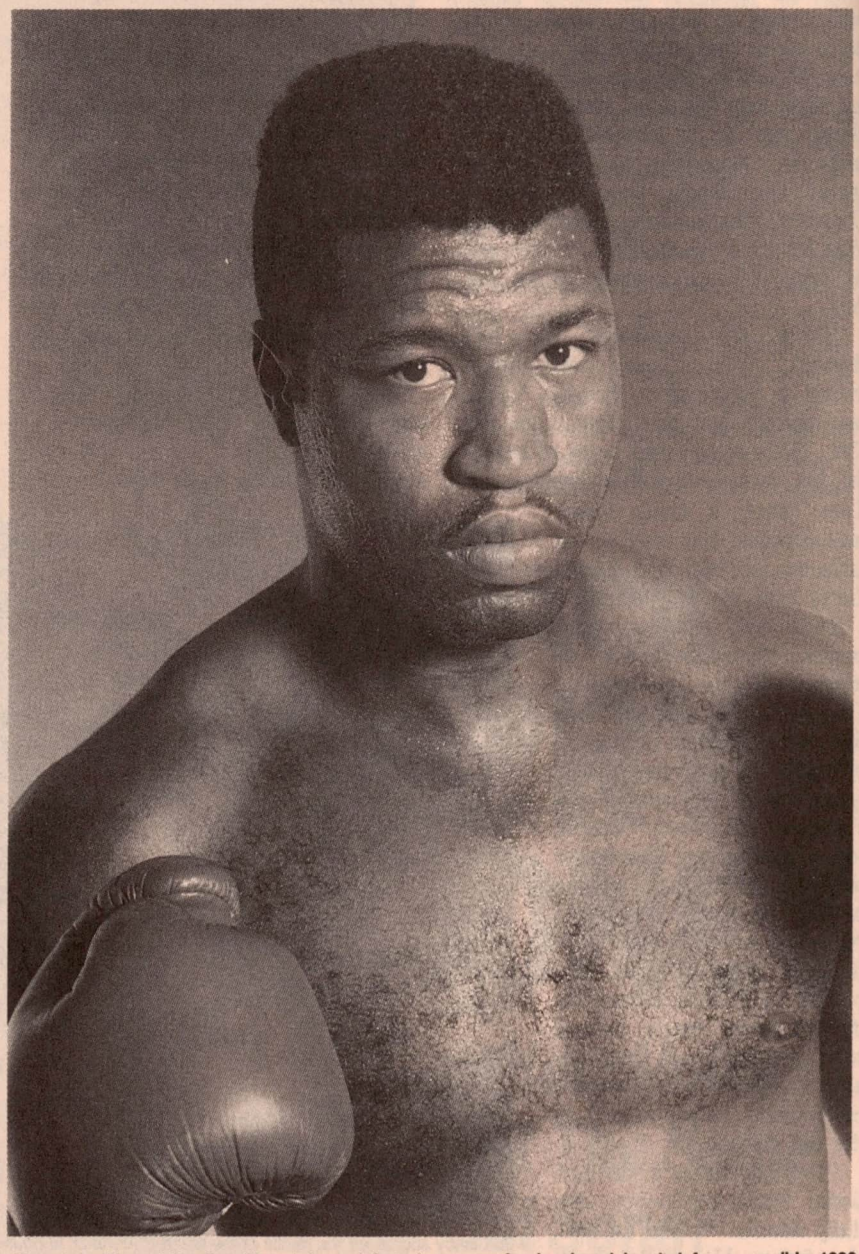
THE PUNCHER: "I can brawl; that's what it's gonna take. It's gonna be a knock-down, drag-out war."

I lay in bed, I think about it all the time. Every night. Five times a night I think about Mike Tyson.

It's gonna be like the last day of my life, and I gotta fight to get out. It's gonna be a war. People are gonna be saying, 'Ray Mercer comes to fight.' People are gonna be into it. As an amateur, Mike Tyson was knocked out. And when someone tells me a fighter's been kayoed, a green light goes on. This guy can be knocked out! It's gonna be a kayo, and I'm gonna jump up. The feeling will be like when I won the Olympics. All the pressure's off.

At the press conference, I'm gonna tell people the easy part is over. Keeping the title is the hard thing.

Then, me, my trainers, and my manager are gonna rent a jet and fly to the Bahamas for three weeks. Stag.



Olympic gold medalist Ray Mercer is undefeated as a professional and headed for a possible 1990 showdown with heavyweight champion Mike Tyson. Is Mercer being rushed? He has power, but lacks finesse and big-fight experience.

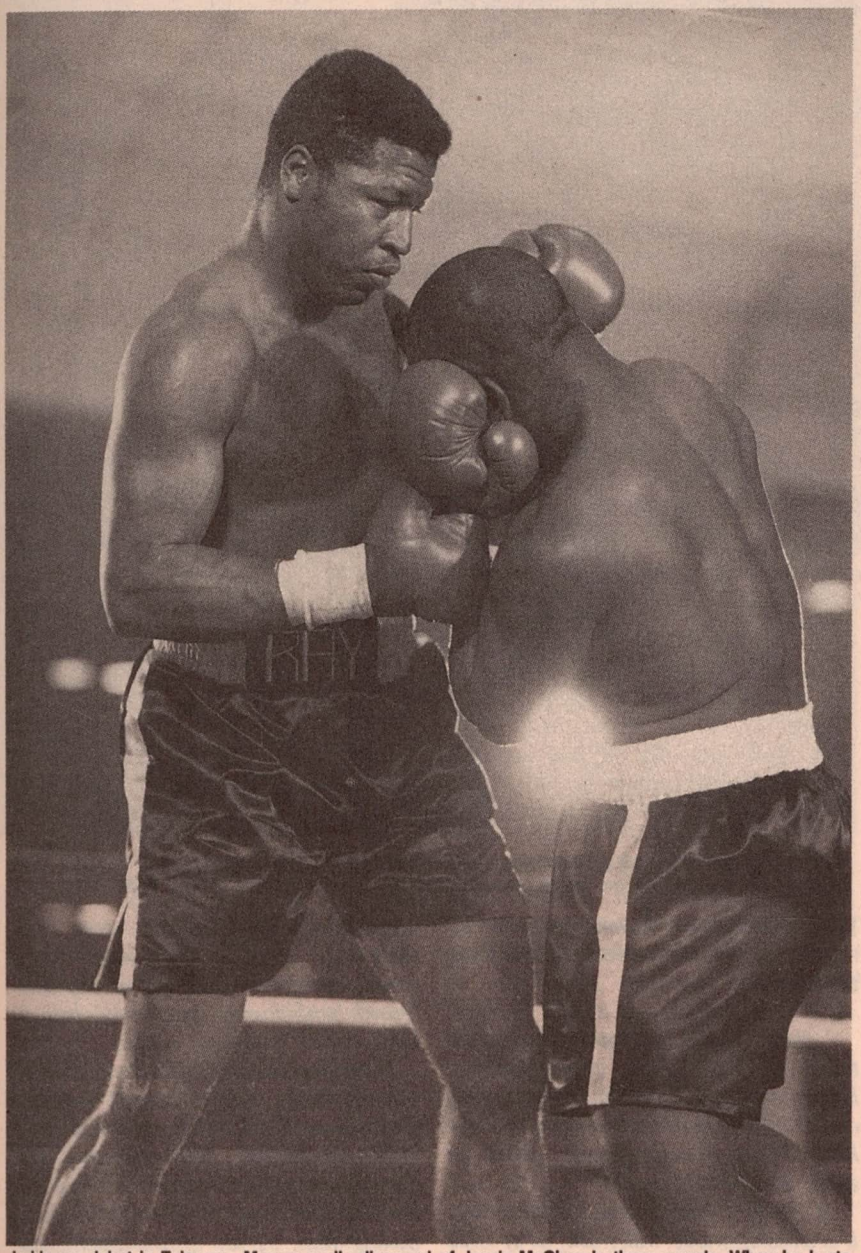
RAY MERCER ADMITS that when he knocks out an opponent, when his left lands right and that electric feeling shoots all the way up his arm, it makes him feel very good. And, he says, when he begins to knock out a better quality of opponent, it's going to feel even better.

If Mercer ever knocks out Mike Tyson . . .

"Coming up in the amateur ranks, I learned how to box," he said. "I *can* box. But a boxer has yet to beat Mike Tyson. They come up empty-handed. They go in there expecting the worst, that they're gonna go down, that they're gonna get hurt. I can punch and brawl, and that's what it's gonna take to beat Tyson. My attitude is that I'm gonna get hit, and hit good, but I'm gonna hit him as much as he hits me. It's gonna be a knock-down, drag-out war. And I'm going to be the heavyweight champion of the world."

A professional for less than a year, Mercer is approaching Tyson like a helmetless biker speeding into a brick wall. As of this writing, the Olympic gold medalist hadn't boxed more than four rounds in any single fight, but had already reached 10-round main-event status. In December, he's scheduled to face James Tillis, everyone's favorite heavyweight trialhorse; that's a sure sign that a bout with a top-10 contender isn't far off. Hank Johnson, Mercer's trainer, is already eying top contender Michael Dokes. And Team Mercer—the fighter, Johnson, promoter Bob Arum, and manager Marc Roberts—is aiming for a late-1990 or early-1991 date with the champion. In

Ray Mercer and Riddick Bowe Take Aim



In his pro debut in February, Mercer easily disposed of Jessie McGhee in three rounds. When he hurts his foe and fires powerpunches in combination, Mercer displays an unmerciful finishing touch. If he continues his current pace, he might get a chance to display that finishing touch against Mike Tyson.

fact, after Mercer's very first pro bout in February, the postfight questions didn't concern his adjustment from the amateurs or his development or his added weight.

"What's the timetable for a fight with Tyson?"

Mercer is 28 years old, so a two-year diet of low exposure four- and six-rounders wasn't advisable. He's already frozen his share of Mr. Softees, including Al Evans, who held an amateur victory over Tyson. But by 1990, the quality of opposition figures to dramatically increase.

At this point, the skeptics outnumber the believers.

"It's the same predicament Tyrell Biggs was in," says Riddick Bowe, Mercer's former Olympic teammate and current rival. "The people who have him don't have faith in him, so they want a return on their investment now."

"The problem that has arisen in the heavyweight division is connected to economics," says HBO's Larry Merchant. "Anybody who says this kid is ready to fight Tyson by the end of 1990 is not interested in developing him to his fullest potential, so he can get his best shot at *beating* Tyson. It's either short-sighted greed or their own conviction that if they take the longer and more deliberate road to the title, the fighter might get knocked off because he's not really that good."

Is Mercer ready for the jump? At this point, he seems a one-dimensional fighter, but for a showdown with a champion like Tyson, his may be the *right* dimension.

"Being a puncher isn't a negative," said Johnson. "As long as he doesn't go down to Georgia and Alabama for those punches, like Tyson does. In his first few fights, [Mercer] was going to Georgia, too. I'm trying to sharpen his punches up."

Perhaps they can compromise on Kentucky.

Johnson, a former Army boxing coach, first worked with Mercer, a former Army sergeant, in 1985. Excited by Mercer's natural punching power, the coach asked him back in '86, and again in '87, but Mercer opted to remain with his military unit in West Germany.

"In '85 I didn't know what to expect," Mercer said. "I wasn't too sure of myself. I liked to go to clubs, to party. You gotta be dedicated. No partying. I wasn't ready to settle down. I said no (when they asked him back). The training was too rough. They thought I was kidding.

"In '88, I knew from the first time what it took. I told myself I was ready. It was an Olympic year, and people said that if you put your mind to it, you can do anything."

"When he came back in '88, it was a different Ray Mercer," said John-

son. "He had made up his mind he was going to give it everything he had. If he was as wild as he had been in '85, we wouldn't have had a chance."

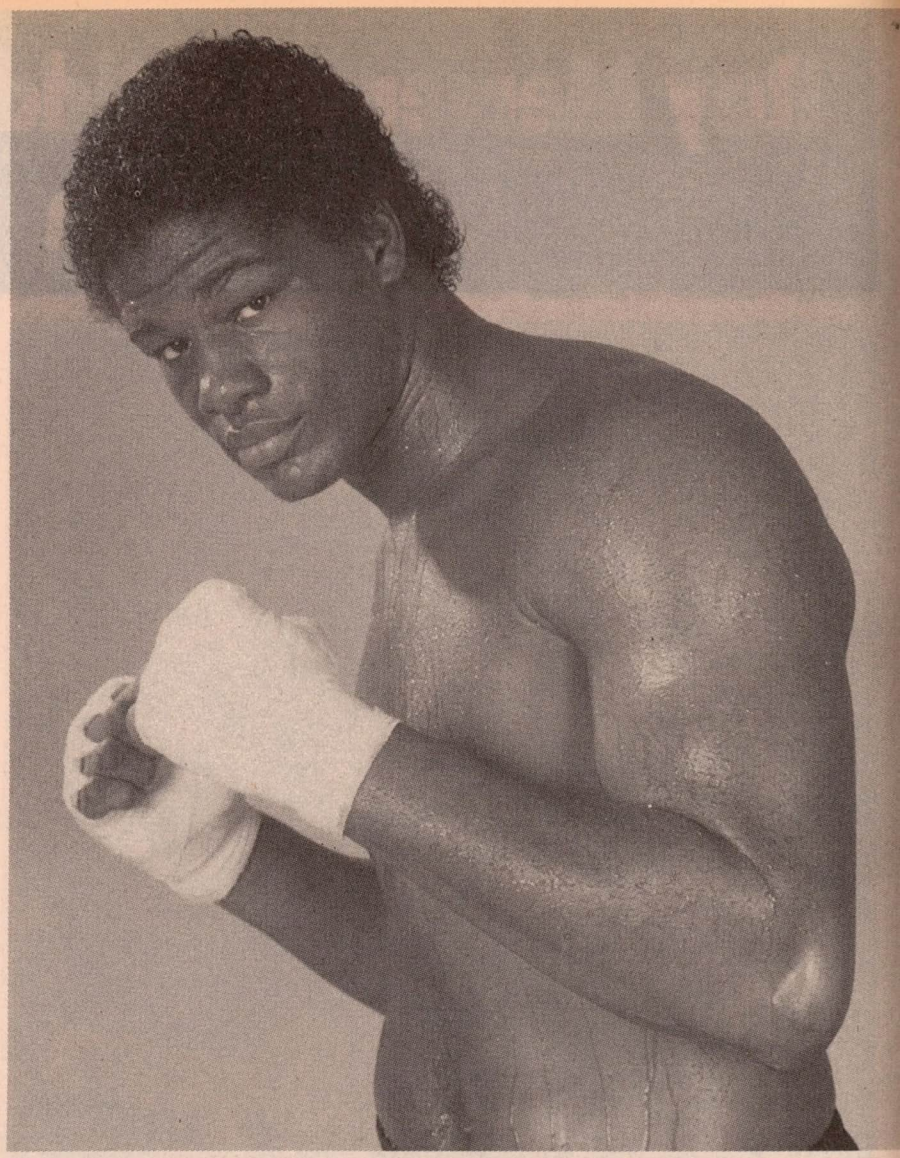
To earn a berth on the '88 Olympic team, Mercer twice defeated highly touted New Yorker Michael Bent. He then kayoed all four of his opponents in Seoul, including South Korea's Baik Hyun Man in the final bout, to win the gold medal in the heavyweight class. Despite the fighter's lack of experience, Johnson wasn't surprised by the success. In fact, before the Olympics, he and head coach Ken Adams had predicted their team would win six gold medals, with Mercer to be joined by Anthony Hembrick, Kennedy McKinney, Roy Jones, Andrew Maynard, and Michael Carbajal. (As it turned out, Mercer, McKinney, and Maynard did indeed win gold medals; Jones and Carbajal won silvers; Hembrick, the team captain and, along with Mercer, its leader, arrived late for his first bout and was disqualified.)

After the Games, the 6'1½" Mercer immediately bulked up, scaling as high as 218 for a May kayo of Dave Hopkins, and settling in at about 211. Two of his first three foes, McGhee and Garing Lane, were chubby tubs of goo, but opponent number nine, former light heavyweight contender Arthel Lawhorne, who fell in two rounds, represented a small step forward.

"You look at Mercer, and then you look at what's in the field, and if anything, we'll have to hold him back," said Johnson. "We need to fight a quality fighter, but as strong as he is now, I don't think they'll be able to go 10 rounds."

But perhaps it will be *Mercer* who won't be able to go the distance. A heavyweight at his level has many questions to answer, and first-round kayos of marshmallow foes serve as nothing more than the obligatory introductory course to the pro game. Will his heavy muscles sag after six rounds? When pitted against a quick and clever boxer, will frustration replace elation? Can he sufficiently shorten his punches? What about his chin, which hasn't yet been tested? And, finally, the ultimate question: Even if he should prove to be a legitimate title threat and a bonebreaker in the mold of a Mike Weaver or an Earnie Shavers, will he manage to topple a legend-in-the-making like Tyson?

Well, sooner or later *someone's* got to do it. Whether it will be sooner or later is what will determine Ray Mercer's future.



Brooklyn heavyweight Riddick Bowe won a silver medal at the 1988 Olympics, but he seems more focused as a pro than he was as an amateur. He's being trained by the master, Eddie Futch.

THE BOXER: "I'll box him over 12 rounds. A lot of movement and he's bewildered."

I think about that more than anything. I don't think about Lennox Lewis anymore. I find myself thinking about Tyson constantly. How to beat him. What it would take. How to elude him.

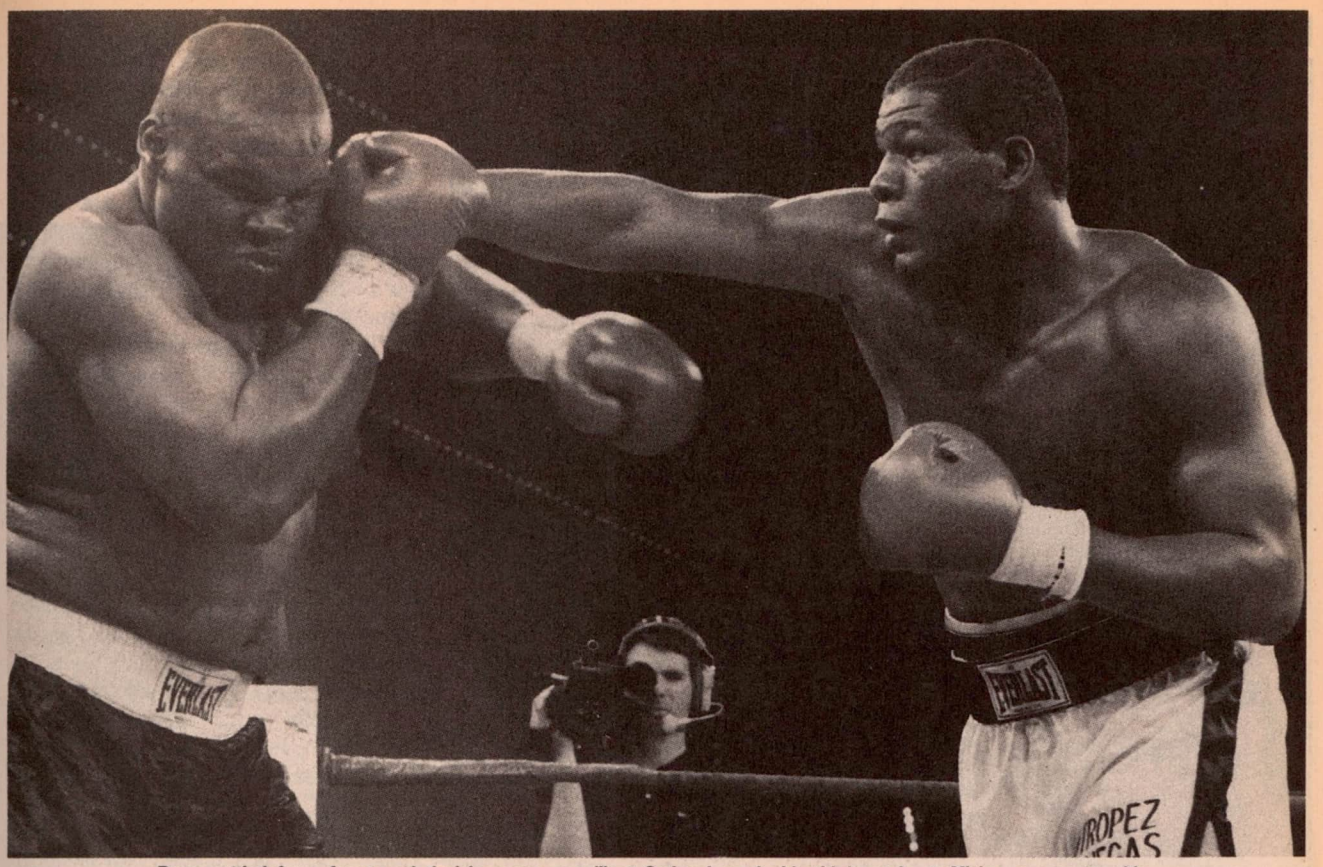
If I'm just lying there, I think about if a sidestep move will work, or if I hit him with a hook, how it would make him off-balance. I've talked to guys who have been in camp with him, and they tell me you'd be surprised at how easy it is to hit him.

Maybe we'd take the fight back to Brownsville. The crowd would be split in half. We'd hype it as 'The Brownsville Shootout.' Maybe that wouldn't be big enough. Perhaps Vegas or the Garden. The whole world would be watching. Riddick Bowe would come down from the dressing room and there'd be a big roar. Tyson comes down, and his roar is not so big. The crowd behind me, that would help a lot.

Everyone's waiting for one punch, the big bang, but it doesn't happen, and eventually it slips away from him. After six rounds, he's ordinary, and his stamina would betray him. I see me beating him over a 12-round period, boxing him. A lot of movement and he's bewildered. They'd announce the unanimous decision, and I'd go wild. I would just break.

Afterward, I'd tell him not to worry because he won't be unemployed. I'd hire him as my chief sparring partner. Maybe I'd even go $1,000 a week.

IT WAS JUNE 1988, and the Atlantic City Convention Center was filled in anticipation of the heavy-



Bowe settled for a four-round decision over a resilient Garing Lane in his third pro bout. Mixing movement with counterpunching and a ramrod jab, the Brooklyn-born heavyweight is overflowing with potential.

weight title fight between Mike Tyson and Michael Spinks. Eddie Futch, the legendary trainer who instantly draws a mini-crowd at such events, was walking down a ringside aisle when he was approached by a 6'5", 230-pound teenager.

"Do you know who I am?" asked then-amateur heavyweight Riddick Bowe.

"Am I *supposed* to know who you are?" answered Futch. Bowe quickly shrunk from 6'5" to 5'5".

Neither Futch nor Bowe knew it at the time, but that seemingly innocent exchange helped spawn a close, and potentially productive, relationship.

A boy blessed with a man's body, Bowe had been riding his reputation as a gifted heavyweight. But Futch, who had sparred with Joe Louis and trained Larry Holmes and Joe Frazier, was hardly impressed. In the subsequent months, when told of Bowe's "attitude problems," Futch was further turned off.

"I started hearing comments from fight people, all negative," Futch said. "I saw one of his fights, and I saw a lot of potential, but also a lot of playfulness. He looked like he wasn't really dedicated. He didn't have that drive. That was my impression."

When initially asked to work with Bowe after the Olympics, Futch declined. Then he was phoned by Rock Newman, the heavyweight's manager. Newman detailed the conditions of not only Bowe's career, but his life as well. The fact that his sister had been murdered; that his mother, who had borne 12 children, lived with the fighter in a rat-hole on a crack-infested block in Brownsville, Brooklyn; that ankle and hand injuries had severely reduced Bowe's effectiveness before and during the Olympics. Newman sold his fighter, and Futch, who has always been supplied with a lot more fighters than he demands, bought him.

"There were a lot of handicaps," Futch said. "Maybe he was worth looking at. I told him, 'You have a lot of talent, but that's not all it takes. You have to be singleminded in your intentions to go all the way.' I told him, 'I'm 78 years old and I don't have time to waste. I have to make every day count.' He was impressed by that."

On a cold winter morning in Reno, Futch quickly tested Bowe by assigning him roadwork at dawn and indicating that he wouldn't be able to see him off. Fifteen minutes after Bowe was to begin, Futch appeared and was happy to eye his fighter running in the distance.

"He's passed every test," Futch said. "His attitude is no longer a problem."

Bowe is only 22. As a result, he's not handicapped by the biological clock that ticks in the corner of his 28-year-old Olympic teammate, Ray Mercer. Futch and Newman have been able to set a pace that befits a raw prospect.

"When a fella's as big as he is," Futch said of Bowe, "people get the impression that he's a man. But he's just a kid."

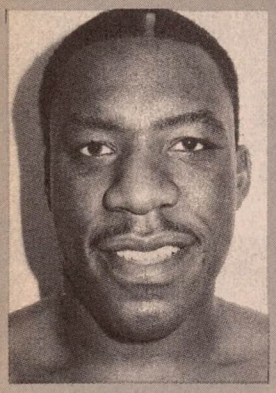
Perhaps *manchild* is a better word. Like Mike Tyson, who spent part of his childhood in Brownsville, Bowe was exposed to the harsh realities of street life at a ridiculously young age. At one point, Bowe and Tyson lived only three blocks apart.

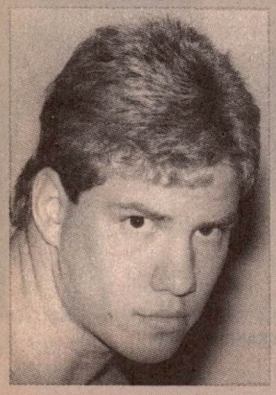
"To a certain extent I can relate to him," said Bowe. "I know what he went through as a child, and that motivates me. If he went through what he did and made it, why can't I?"

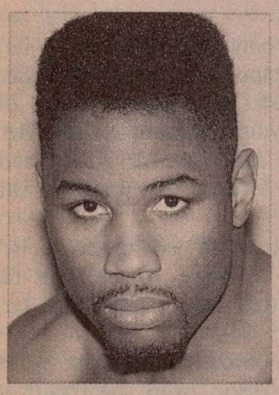
Bowe remembers his first meeting with Tyson. It was in a park in Brooklyn a few weeks after Tyson had been beaten by Henry Tillman at the 1984 Olympic Trials. Bowe was running, and Tyson and two or three of his friends were sitting on a gate, watching him.

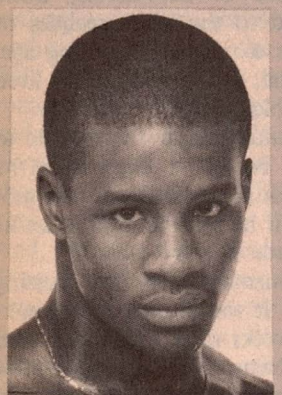
"One of them asked me if I was a

FOUR WHO WOULD BE KING









Riddick Bowe and Ray Mercer aren't the only prospects who dream of dethroning Mike Tyson. Listed below are four more potential contenders. Should Tyson continue his reign for a few more years, it's a good bet that at least two of these four candidates will eventually challenge him.

Gary Mason: Is this another gentle pretender from Great Britain or a legitimate title contender? Mason, with 32 victories (31 by kayo) is far more advanced than his company here. His seventh-round stoppage of one-time top contender Tyrell Biggs in October drew international attention, and he's already rated in the top 12 by all three sanctioning bodies. Mason, who dropped Biggs for the count with a right hand, scaled a whopping 248 for the bout. He's a pure puncher, but don't expect a showdown with the British fight crowd's favorite, Frank Bruno, who remains a valuable—albeit inactive—attraction.

Tommy Morrison: "The Duke" is the great-grandnephew of John Wayne, so you know he's not a cutey who picks and pokes. A late-bloomer who lost to Mercer in the 1988 Olympic Trials, he'll benefit from a relationship with adviser Bill Cayton, who knows how to move a heavyweight. Morrison's balance and defense need tons of work, but his left hook is a crowd-pleaser. He's already 17-0, with 15 kayos. After Cayton's contract with Tyson expires in 1992, a Tyson-Morrison title fight would be a natural, with a built-in angle that the media will milk. The guess here is that Morrison will be protected—and then rushed into a title fight that he won't win.

Lennox Lewis: This British-based Canadian has to be the least-publicized Olympic super heavyweight champion since Italy's Francesco DePiccoli in 1960. An inexperienced Lewis was a bust at the '84 Games, but he rebounded four years later to stop Bowe in the final match in Seoul. As a pro, Lewis is 3-0 with 3 kayos. Like Mason, he's a monster of a heavyweight, scaling as high as 234½, and, like Mason, he can punch with authority. His third win, a fourth-round stoppage of Andy Gerrard in London, was quite impressive. Gerrard, a veteran of more than 40 fights, was known for his durability. Lewis won't get lost on the other side of the ocean; he's connected to experienced New York manager Stan Hoffman.

Michael Moorer: The longshot because he's currently a light heavyweight. But Emanuel Steward, Moorer's mentor, insists that his Kronk powerpuncher could eventually be the fighter to dethrone Tyson. Steward predicts that Moorer will grow into a 210-pound heavyweight. At 6'1", he's tall enough to carry the weight. And if he carries his power as well, he'll become a contender. Should Moorer make it, he'll also make history. There's never been a southpaw heavyweight champion.

—Steve Farhood

fighter," Bowe recalled. "I said, 'Yeah,' and they said, 'Yeah, *right*.' I kept running. His friend said something, and they all laughed."

Five years later, Tyson is still watching Bowe run. Only now, Bowe is running toward Tyson, and not away from him. Futch has set a timetable of two years, or twice as long as Mercer's. But he added, "[Bowe] could come along faster."

"Ray Mercer said that if he fought me at this point, it would be a step backward," Bowe said in October. "The only difference between me and Ray Mercer is that Mercer's had nine fights and I've had eight."

But there are other differences that are far less subtle. Where Mercer is a steamroller who will advance as far as his power takes him, Bowe is a classic standup boxer with a power jab (a Futch trademark), mobility, and a touch of class. He's predictably been fed a steady diet of fall-down opposition, but in his most important bout, a CBS-televised second-round TKO of Lorenzo Canady, he was superb.

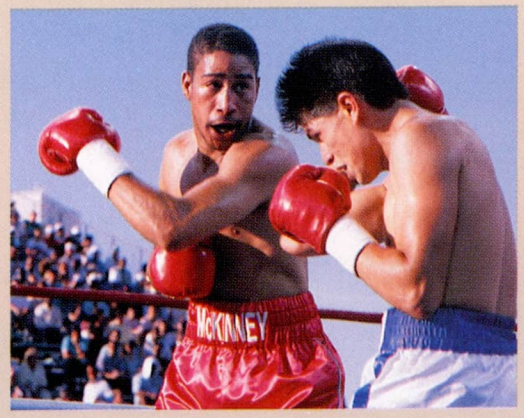
"I saw a complete change in attitude," said Gil Clancy, who analyzed the bout for CBS. "Before, his attitude was so bad, it was like the world owed him a living. In terms of talent, there's no problem. He can box, he can punch. He might have more potential than any of them."

But, of course, potential alone is never going to beat Tyson. Is Futch winning his battle to instill a sense of discipline? In his second bout, in April against Tracy Thomas, Bowe scaled 218. Less than a month later, in his third bout, against Garing Lane, he jumped up to an unflattering 230. And there are the physical disciplines as well. Futch points to Bowe's tendency to overuse lateral movement, a leftover habit from the amateurs, and his reluctance to fire his surgically repaired right hand with full force. (When asked whether his chronically sore hands would negatively affect his ring future, Bowe said pessimistically, "I think so, but I hope not.") A few fine Futch adjustments will have to be made before the gifted heavyweight becomes an accomplished one as well.

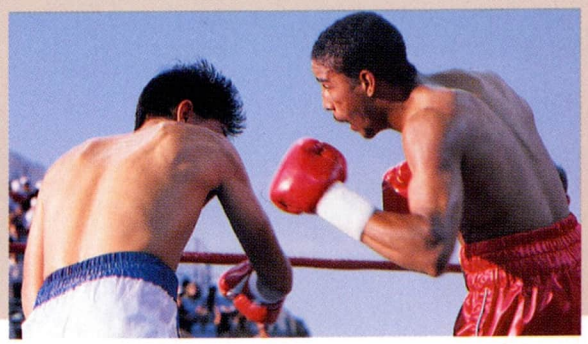
"I know how hard I'm working, and it's disappointing that there are still some people who don't believe in me," Bowe said.

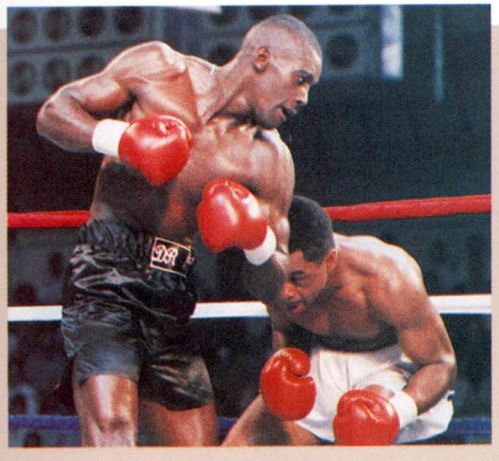
No matter. At the age of 78, Eddie Futch has decided that he has enough time for Bowe. And that alone should convince Bowe that he has enough time for Futch, too. □

KENNEDY McKINNEY
Featherweight



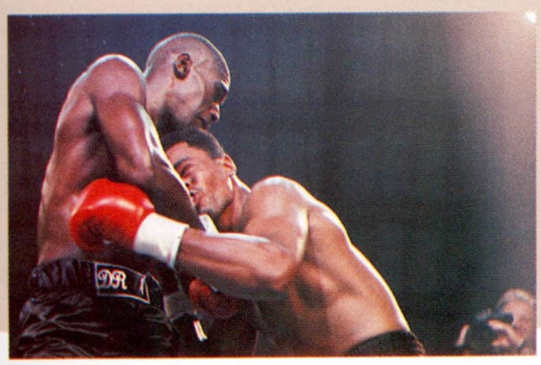
In his toughest pro bout, gold medalist McKinney, who is trying to rebound from drug problems, outpointed David Moreno over six rounds in June (left and below).



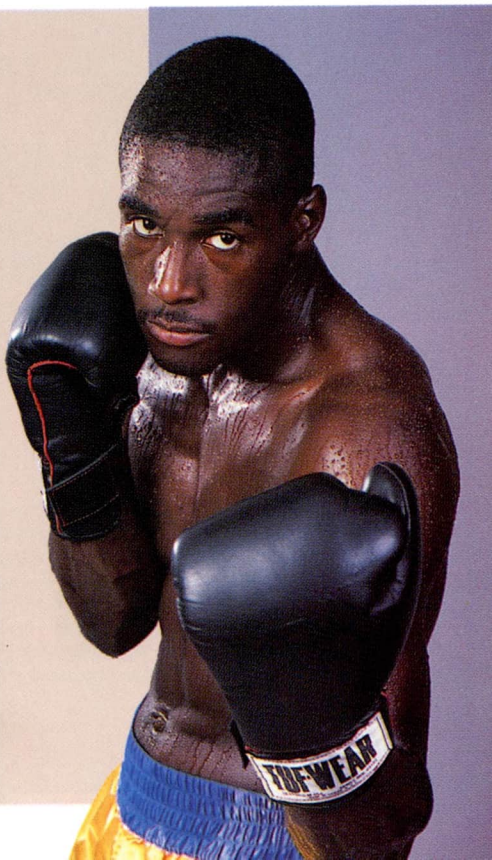


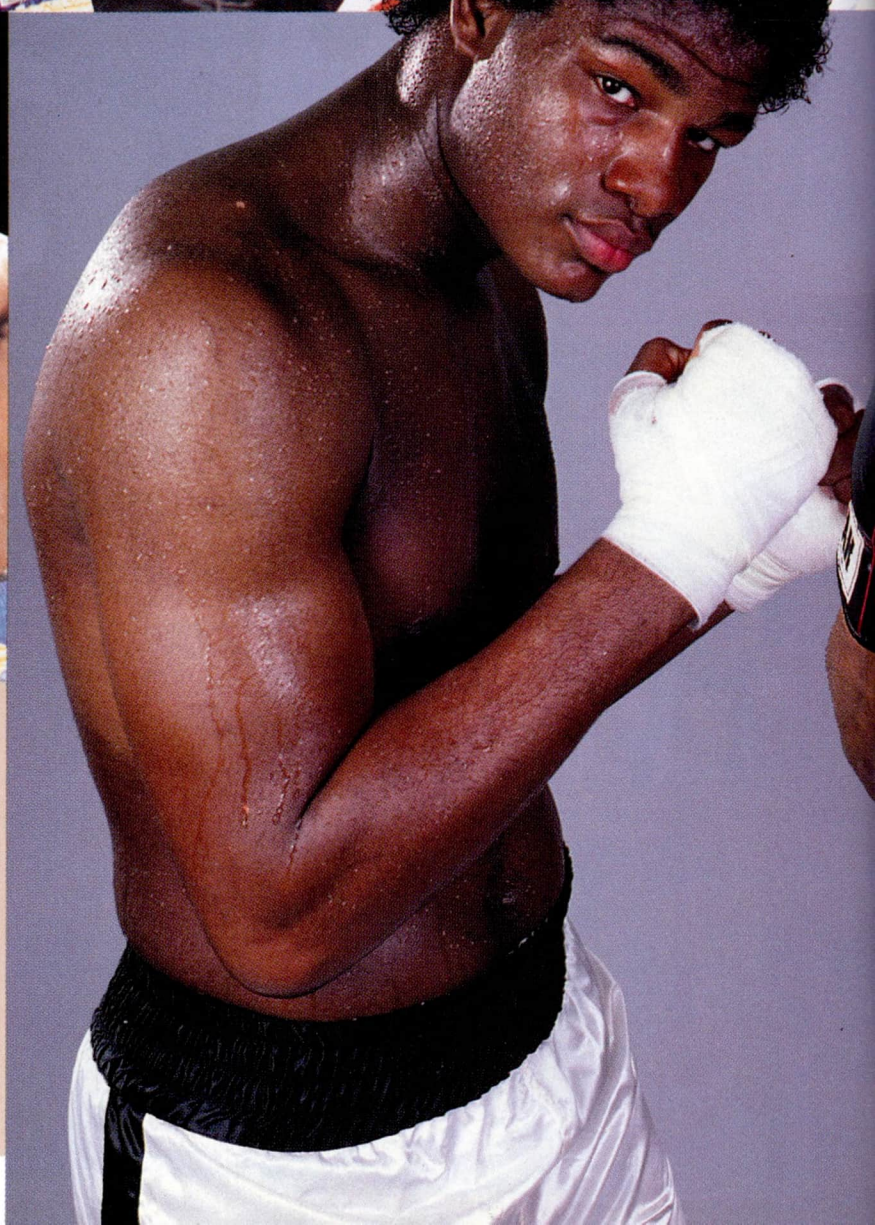
ANDREW MAYNARD
Light Heavyweight

A physical fighter with a swarming style, Maynard, a gold medal winner in Seoul, scored kayos in his first eight pro bouts. Perhaps his toughest test was Arthur Hall (left), who landed lots of left hooks before falling in the fifth round in August.



Maynard wore down Hall and, at times, fought off his opponent's attempts at clinching (left). Since turning pro, Maynard has worked at trying to relax more in the ring.

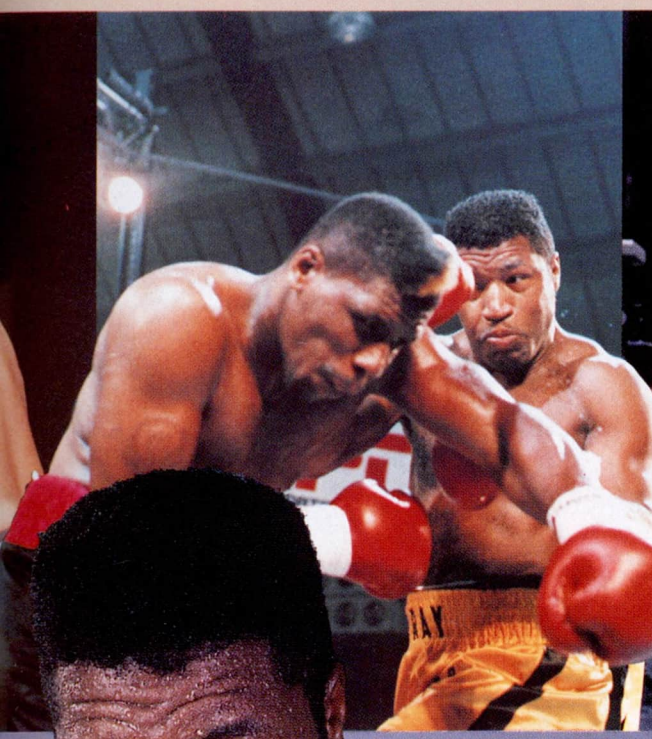


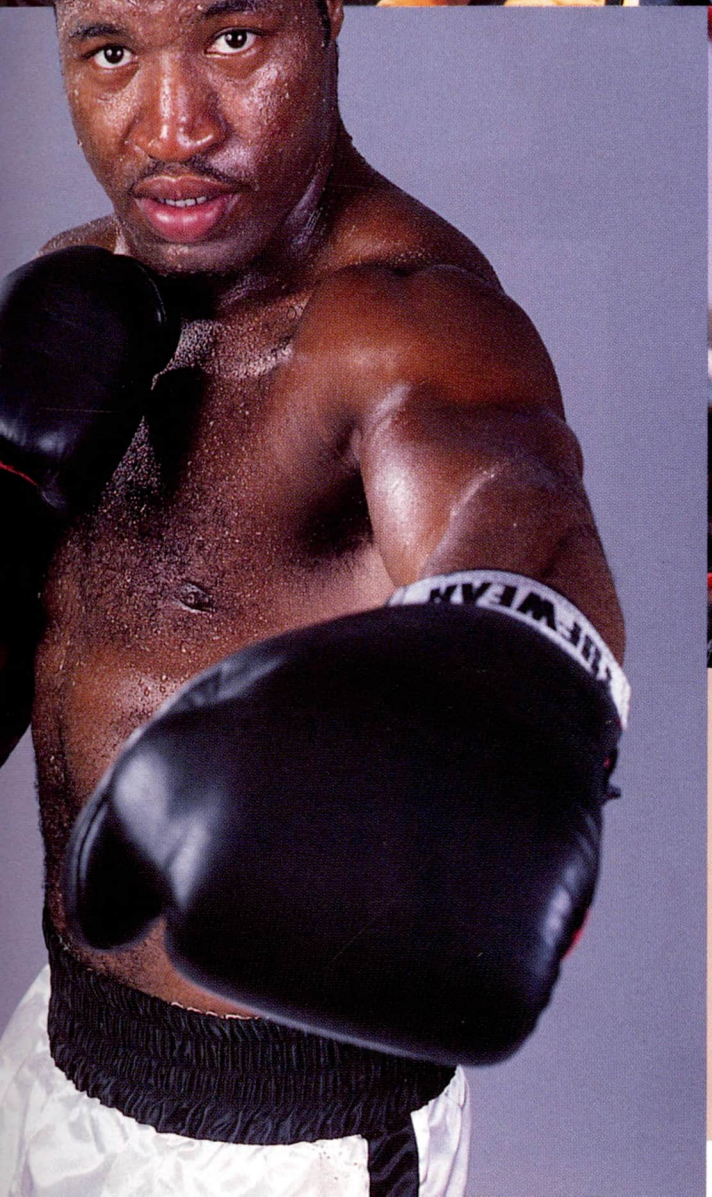


RIDDICK BOWE

Heavyweight

The silver medalist in the super heavyweight class, Bowe averaged only two rounds in his first eight pro fights. In Atlantic City in July, he pounded veteran Lorenzo Canady in a CBS-televised bout and finished him in two rounds. Bowe displayed diversified talents and featured hard hooks (above), bone-jarring rights (top), and a sound defense (top right).





RAY MERCER

Heavyweight

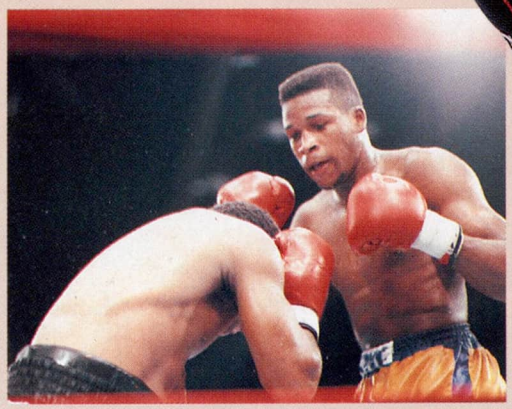
Nothing thrills fight fans like one-punch kayo power. In the '88 Olympics, Ray Mercer knocked out all four of his opponents and won the gold medal in the heavyweight division. In his first nine pro bouts, Mercer scored eight kayos, including six in the first round. En route to what he hopes will be a crash collision with Mike Tyson, Mercer has steamrolled such foes as Ken Crosby (above and top), a first-round victim in June, and Tracy Thomas (top left), another first-round victim, in August.

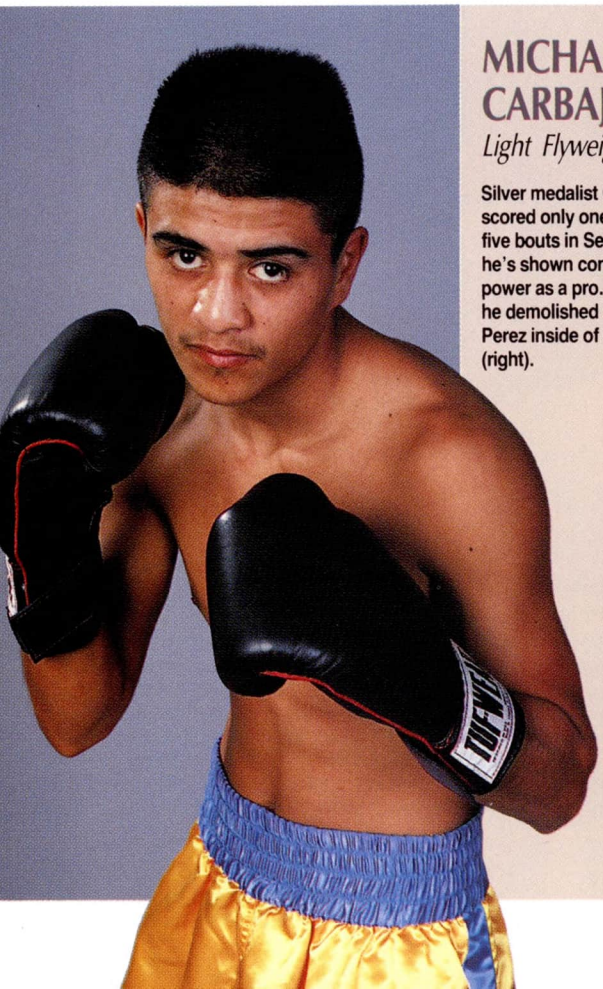
In July, Hembrick outpointed the experienced Dean Moore over six rounds. After dancing for two rounds, Hembrick attacked (left).

ANTHONY HEMBRICK

Light Heavyweight

The 6'2" Hembrick owned a significant height and reach advantage, but was willing to collide with Moore and engage in busy infighting (right). Hembrick, the captain of the team in Seoul, was disqualified for arriving late for his first bout.





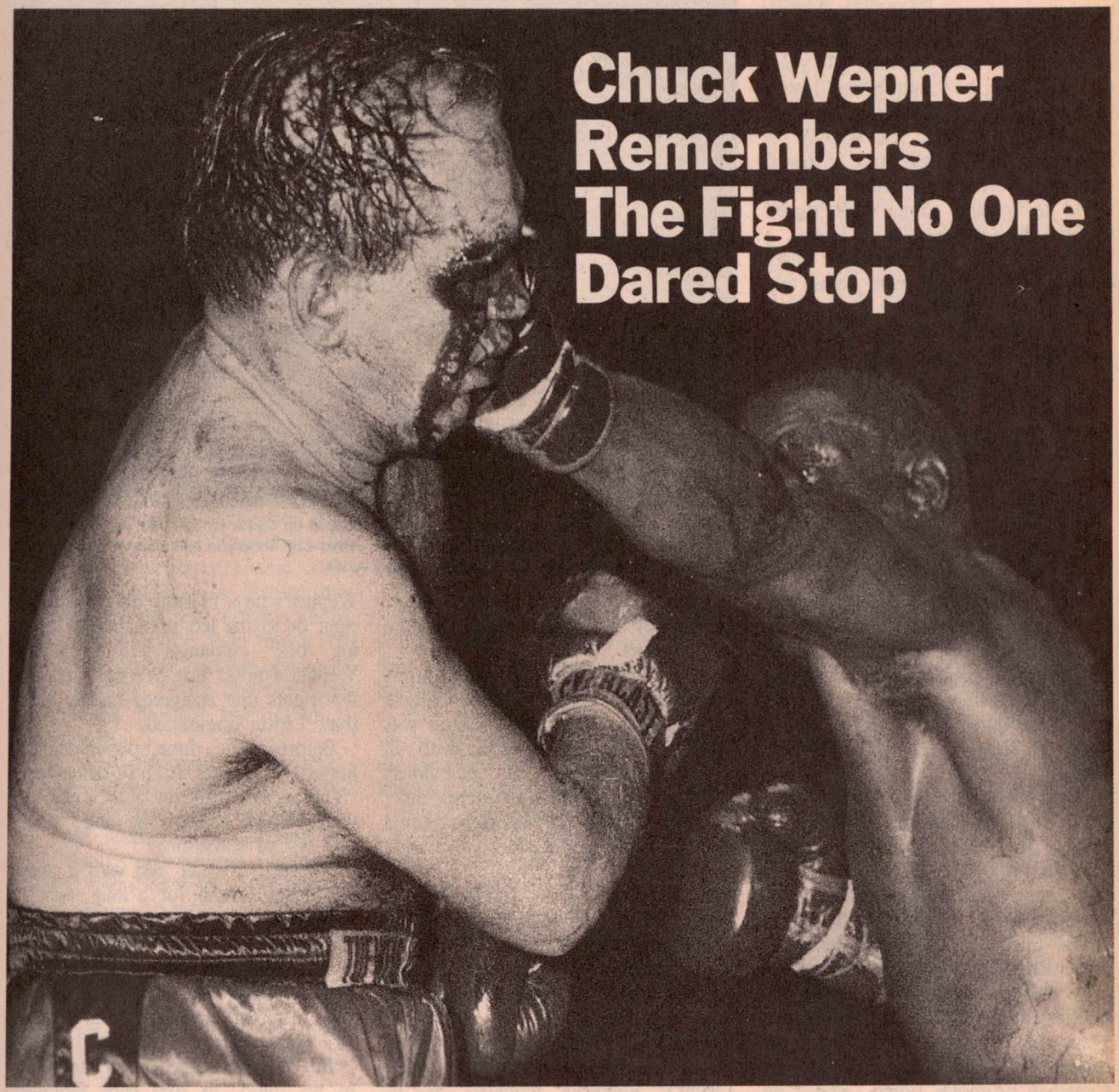
MICHAEL CARBAJAL

Light Flyweight

Silver medalist Carbajal scored only one kayo in five bouts in Seoul, but he's shown considerable power as a pro. In April, he demolished Silvanio Perez inside of one round (right).

Carbajal launches a hook during his fourth-round stoppage of Eduardo Nunez in June (left). He scored six kayos in his first eight bouts.

THE BAYONNE BLEEDER'S BLOODIEST BRAWL



Chuck Wepner Remembers The Fight No One Dared Stop

By Joseph C. Tintle

NO LONGER CAN Chuck Wepner come and go as he wishes. Gone are the days of driving fast cars, wearing expensive jewelry, and dating scores of women.

He wakes up when he's told to wake up. He eats when he's told to eat. He goes to bed when he's told to go to bed.

It is the first time in 50 years that anyone has ever told Chuck Wepner what to do.

For the past year-and-a-half, the former world heavyweight contender, who fought Muhammad Ali for the title in 1975 and inspired the film character Rocky Balboa, has been serving a 10-year sentence at Northern State Prison. It is a lonely, sad place that stands near Exit 14 of the New Jersey Turnpike in Newark, where Wepner has been paying the price for possession and conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

Recently, however, he was admitted to Northern State's Intensive Supervision Program, which allows him to live and work outside the prison's walls as long as he adheres to an 8 p.m. curfew and performs community service.

"It's a lot better than sitting in prison," said Wepner, who stands 6'5" and weighs 245 pounds—20 more than his fighting weight. If all goes well, he said, he'll be a free man in 17 months.

As he tries to rebuild his life, Wepner has returned to work as a salesman for his former employer, Majestic Wine & Spirits, in Union, New Jersey. "But always," he says, "I think about my days in the fight game."

One of Wepner's most painful days in boxing took place a little more than three miles from his home in Bayonne. At the Jersey City Armory 20 years ago next June, he fought Sonny Liston in one of boxing's bloodiest brawls.

The year was 1970, and Wepner realized that only a win over a top-10 contender could thrust him into the world heavyweight scene. So he signed to fight sixth-ranked Sonny Liston, a frightening hulk whose sinister glare often intimidated opponents before any punches were thrown.

This would not only be an important fight for Wepner, but for Liston as well. The former world heavyweight champion, age 38 (or so he claimed; some estimates ran as high as 46), could not afford another loss. A defeat would end an 18-year boxing career that had peaked eight years earlier with a first-round kayo of Floyd Patterson for the heavyweight championship of the world.

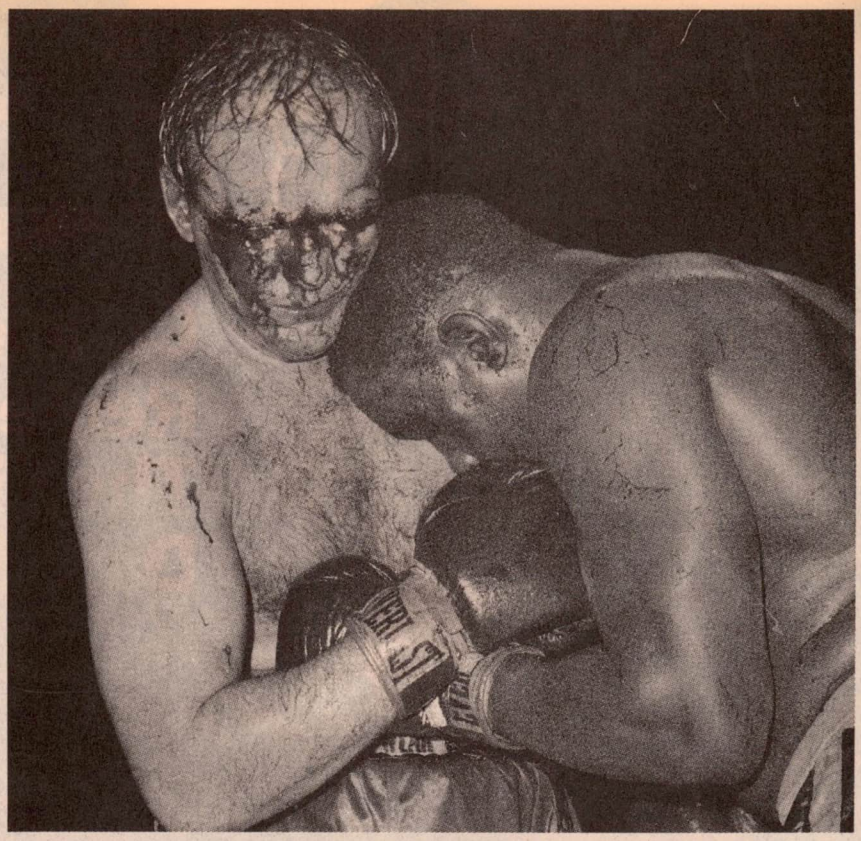
After that victory, and a second one-round humiliation of Patterson, the Liston myth took hold, with sportswriters regarding him as one of the ring's heaviest hitters ever. But the infatuation lasted only until he lost title fights to Cassius Clay in 1964 and 1965.

Although no longer a serious contender after his losses to Clay, Liston fought 16 more fights from 1966 through 1970. He won 14 straight before Leotis Martin stopped him in December 1969 in a bout for the vacant NABF title. The loss placed Liston at the crossroads of his career.

At the same time, Wepner was facing his own crossroads. Al Braverman, Wepner's manager, had always arranged his fights. But not this one. Canadian promoter Loren Cassina set it up.

In April 1970, Cassina received a message that Liston wanted to speak with him. They met in a coffee shop at the Bonanza Hotel in Las Vegas. Liston said he wanted another fight, and Cassina suggested Wepner, a stand-up, no-nonsense boxer. Liston agreed and contracts were drawn up. Wepner knew a victory over Liston would assure him of a shot with top-contender Jerry Quarry and a big payday.

(As it would turn out, the bout with Wepner was the last of Liston's career. He died of an apparent drug overdose in December 1970.)



In one of the most hideous brawls of the '70s, a chopped up Chuck Wepner falls into a clinch with former heavyweight champion Sonny Liston at the Jersey City Armory in New Jersey. Wepner would require 75 stitches to close his numerous facial wounds.

At the Liston-Wepner press conference in Jersey City in June, the fighters were a study in contrast. Liston was bull-shouldered and boorish, with all the personality of an embalmer. Wepner, who stood four inches taller than the 6'1" Liston, was pleasant and glib and acted as if Liston didn't scare him at all.

"All this talk about Liston the cop beater, Liston the jailbird, Liston the tough guy doesn't mean anything to me," he said. "I'm from Missouri. Sonny's going to have to show me how tough he is."

Then a writer asked the former champion what he'd do to Wepner. Liston's forehead wrinkled as he flashed his infamous stare. "The outcome," he said, "is gonna be bleak. I'm gonna open Wepner's face."

Which is what happened a week later when the opening bell clanged on June 29.

Wepner fought a stupid fight from the outset. Against Braverman's wishes, he traded punches with Liston. But that was Wepner, always forsaking defense. A few of his punches grazed the slow-moving Liston. Midway through round two, Liston began jabbing at Wepner's face, twisting his glove to the right or to the left upon impact. During one exchange, Liston broke Wepner's nose. But Wepner landed a few rights that staggered Liston. After that, Liston dominated.

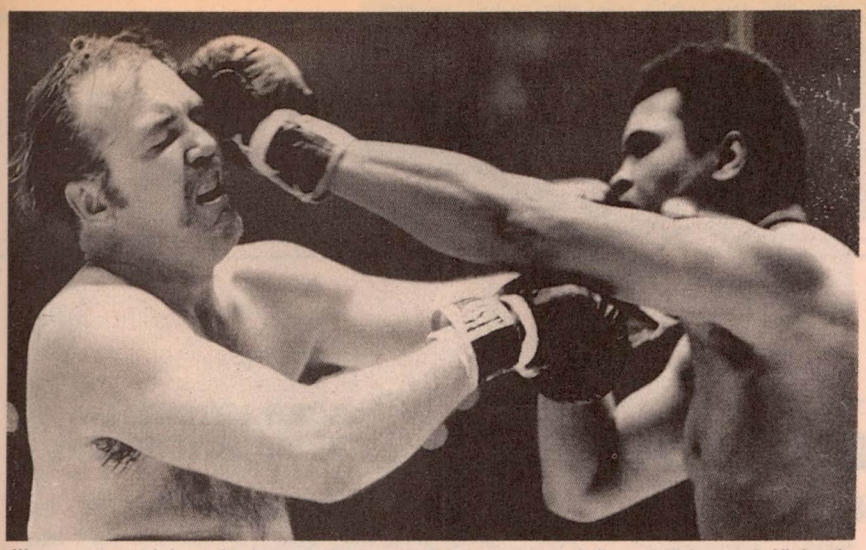
Before round three, Braverman exhorted his fighter to box defensively. "The big ape's got an 84-inch reach to your 78-inch reach," he said. "Does that tell ya something?"

"Yeah," Wepner said with a smile, "it means I'm in for a long night."

Braverman, whose sense of humor vanishes in the ring, slapped Wepner across the face and pulled his hair. "No, dummy," he said, "it means ya gotta back off once in a while or else he's gonna eatcha up."

But Wepner never took a step back. In his mind, to step back indicated weakness. He had never done it before and he sure as hell wasn't going to change now. So Liston easily pressed his advantage. He thundered uppercuts against Wepner's chin, and during rounds three, four, and five, his jab opened gashes above Wepner's eyes.

"Jab after jab after jab," Wepner recalled. "They kept coming like the monthly bills." In the fifth, Wepner slipped to the canvas after absorbing a right to the midsection. It was ruled a knockdown.



Wepner recovered from the loss to Liston and, five years later, challenged Muhammad Ali for the heavyweight crown. Ali won by 15th-round stoppage.

By round six, rivulets of blood were blinding Wepner. For the rest of the fight, all he could see was Liston's outline against the hot glare of the overhead lights. And all he could feel was the pounding of a left jab tearing his face apart, just as Liston had predicted.

The ringside physician, Dr. Reginald Ferrar, tried to examine Wepner after the third round and the sixth, but Abe Greene, the New Jersey boxing commissioner, restrained him. Earlier that day, Wepner had told Greene about his concern that the fight might be stopped prematurely because of his excessive bleeding. "They don't call me the 'Bayonne Bleeder' for nothing," Wepner said.

The commissioner understood. "This was Chuck's biggest fight of his career up until then," Greene said several years after the bout, "and he didn't want a soft-hearted referee or doctor to stop it early. So I got together with referee Barney Felix and Dr. Ferrar and emphasized that bleeding didn't mean a thing to Chuck. I reminded them to note this fact. I had an understanding with them that if the fight became a bad-looking sight, we'd stop it. But only after I gave Barney the signal to do so."

The fight dragged on. In round seven, a left-right combination broke Wepner's cheekbone and he tottered across the ring. How he bore the pain is beyond comprehension. Even Liston was puzzled. "Fall down, man," he pleaded during a clinch in a rare moment of compassion.

Liston then dug a left and a right to Wepner's body. In the eighth, he fired a jab to reopen the gashes over Wepner's eyes, and streams of blood squirted halfway across the ring. Wepner's left eyebrow, soaked with blood, dangled lifelessly as he headed back to his corner. Cries of "butchery" and "murder" rang out, but the fight continued.

"All I can remember about that round," Wepner said, "is that every time I got bashed, I kept seeing the words, BOOM, THWACK, and CRUNCH appearing wherever Liston's fists struck. Just like in the old *Batman* TV show."

By round nine, blood was still pooling in Wepner's eyes. Braverman had tried to patch him up between rounds, but it was impossible to treat six cuts at once. And now Wepner had no idea where Liston was. He punched only at the air while Liston zeroed in with his incessant jab and followed with hooks.

At the bell ending the ninth, Braverman led his battered boxer to their corner. Before the fight, Braverman's shirt had been navy blue. Now it was scarlet, completely soaked with sticky, pasty blood. "Liston might've driven all the blood out of you," Braverman said, "but he sure hasn't driven out your heart."

Meanwhile, Felix stared at Wepner. What he saw was a clump of caked blood blocking Wepner's nasal passage, making it difficult for him to breathe. Slowly, Wepner sucked in puffs of air through lips that had been split by Liston's jabs. Strains of pain showed in a face that was a bleeding, chopped up pulp, made uneven by bumps, bruises, and cuts.

Felix then looked to Greene, hoping to get the signal to stop the fight. He got it.

But as he was about to wave his hands, Braverman exploded. "Don't you dare stop it!" he said. "What the hell's the matter with you? One more round, that's all, one more round. Chuck's gotta go the distance." Wepner sat quietly, unable to see through swollen eyes.

"How many fingers am I holding up?" Felix said to him.

"How many guesses do I get?" Wepner responded.

That was it. Felix waved his hands. The bout had ended, Liston winning by 10th-round TKO.

In the words of *The New York Times'* Dave Anderson, the fight was "a bloody sacrifice that evoked more sympathy for the loser than prestige for the winner."

Wepner would require 75 stitches to patch up a two-inch slice under his left eye, a three-inch gash over the left eye where there was once an eyebrow, a nick in the corner of the eye near the nose, a 2½-inch gash over the right eye, a two-inch cut extending from the forehead to the eyebrow, and a slight tear under the eye.

In his dressing room, Wepner sat bloodied, battered, and bruised.

"Jeezus," said his father Charley, a former fighter. "Will you look at him. It looks like someone went to the butcher shop, pulled out the reddest hunk of meat, cut it open, and let the blood fly out."

Meanwhile, Wepner calmly fielded reporters' questions. Even the silliest ones.

"Was this your toughest fight?" someone said.

"No," he said, adjusting an ice pack on his face. "I think I escaped relatively unscathed thanks to my scientific boxing techniques."

The reporter pressed on. "Did you block any of his punches?"

"All of them—with my face."

"Hey," Braverman said, "if you guys don't ask some intelligent questions, I'm gonna clear the room."

"Weren't you afraid of Liston's power coming into the fight?"

"Nah, I'm from Missouri. You gotta show me. Unfortunately, Sonny did."

As the reporters dispersed, well-wishers came in to console Wepner. One of them was Sonny Liston. He gripped Wepner's still-bandaged hand and said, "Man, I ain't never done this before. But I gotta tell ya that you're the gamest guy I ever fought."

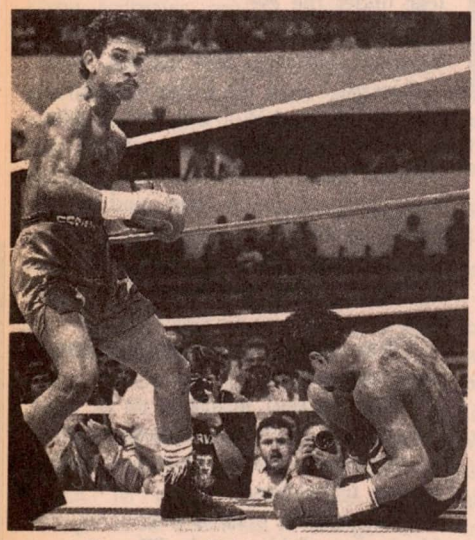
As Liston was walking away, a reporter asked him if Chuck Wepner was the bravest man he'd ever known.

"No," Liston answered, "his manager is." □

RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH: Antonio Esparragoza

For almost two years, fight fans have been waiting for a major explosion from Venezuela's WBA featherweight champion, Antonio Esparragoza. A long-armed 126-pounder with one-punch kayo power in his right hand, Esparragoza seemed close to a showdown with WBC featherweight champion Jeff Fenech. Or maybe IBF featherweight champion Jorge Paez. Or even against bigger fighters, like 130-pound titlists Tony Lopez, Azumah Nelson, or Brian Mitchell.



Esparragoza finishes Fili Montoya

But the big-money bouts, and the name opponents, haven't come. That, however, hasn't slowed the Venezuelan, who has been creating minor explosions by retaining his title via convincing kayos.

In Mexicali, Mexico, on September 23, Esparragoza retained the WBA crown for the sixth time—and the third time in 1989—with a fifth-round blowout of hometown hero Fili Montoya at the Calafia bullring. Since winning the featherweight crown from Stevie Cruz in March 1987, Esparragoza had stopped five of his six challengers. Only the iron-chinned Marcos Villasana has lasted the distance. Esparragoza has defended the crown in Europe, Asia, South America, and North America.

Against Montoya, Esparragoza, 30-1-3 (22), started more quickly than usual. Montoya scored well in round one, but not after. Unable to sufficiently defend himself against the champion's lethal one-twos, he began absorbing punishment as early as the second round.

Esparragoza's slashing fists opened a cut on the challenger's right eyelid in the third and felled Montoya at the end of the fourth. But the bell saved the Mexican.

A minute into the fifth, Esparragoza strung together three consecutive left-right combinations to the body and head that produced a second knockdown. Montoya, almost motionless, was counted out at the 1:13 mark.

"I never underestimate a rival," Esparragoza, who reportedly earned $120,000 for the bout, said afterward. "I prepare conscientiously because I don't want to lose the title."

A spokesman for Jab Promotions said only 4,000 tickets were sold, and the promoters took a 300-million peso bath (about $120,000).

Among the bouts on the undercard, former junior welterweight champion Rene Arredondo entered the welterweight ranks and knocked out Jorge "Yaqui" Hernandez in the third round. A right to the chin was the decisive blow.

BRIAN MITCHELL-IRVING MITCHELL

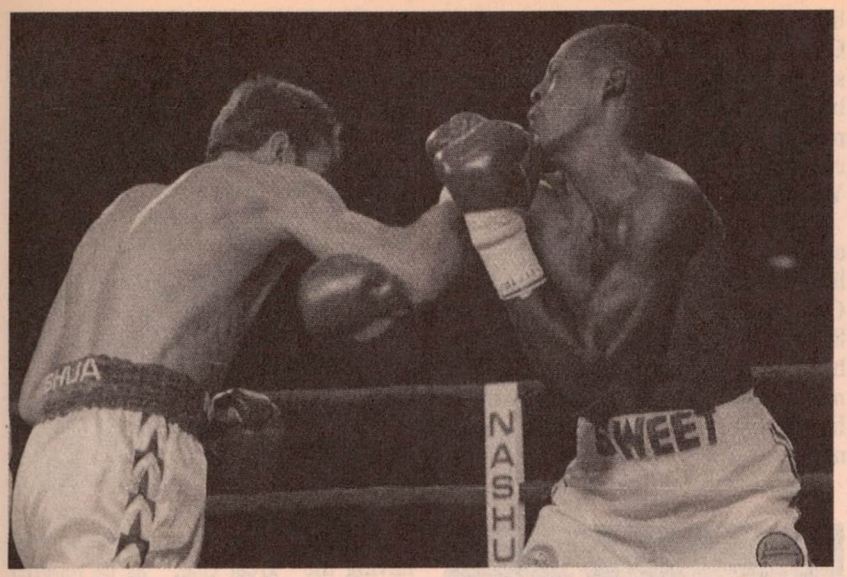
LEWISTON, MAINE—The last time they held a world title fight here (the *only* time they held a world title fight here), it created a stink that permeates the sport's atmosphere to this day. Muhammad Ali defended against Sonny Liston in May 1965, only because the bout had been kicked out of Boston. Unknown individuals reportedly threatened the challenger with death, fans were searched for weapons, and Sonny took it all so seriously that he fainted in the first round.

It took a quarter-century to bring another title fight here, and the cloud of controversy remains.

The ghost that haunts Brian Mitchell isn't some buried secret or some hazy specter. It's as real and tangible as any opponent. It is the anti-apartheid protests that are connected with the WBA junior lightweight champion's South African heritage. Even in far-off Maine, the protesters were in place before Mitchell's American debut against Louisiana southpaw Irving Mitchell.

The local NAACP and the Maine Project On Southern Africa threatened to stop the fight and boasted of the power to do so. Why had the bout been brought to Lewiston by promoter Cedric Kushner, who happens to be a native of South Africa? It wasn't because Kushner anticipated a minimal amount of objections in an out-of-the-way location like Lewiston, but rather because local prospect Joey Gamache was viewed as a potential natural for a title challenge against Mitchell.

By fight time, there weren't many protesters at the Central Maine Youth Center, a converted ice hockey rink that had served as the host for Ali-Liston as well. A planned demonstration by students of nearby Bates College was evident only in the number of Bates T-shirts to be seen in the crowd. In fact, the only active protest of sig-



Brian Mitchell pummels Irving Mitchell

nificance was the withdrawal of local sportscaster Bill Green as the ring announcer.

Ivan Suzman, leader of the Maine Project, calimed he hadn't had enough time to muster his troops, and, failing to recognize the irony of his statement, said, "at least six people" had been influenced not to buy fight tickets. The NAACP's Neville Knowles indicated that his organization had succeeded in sufficiently raising a consciousness of the issue.

The titleholder, 130, seemed pleased to enter the ring to a warm greeting. Irving Mitchell, 129¼, Lafayette, Louisiana, was getting a second chance after a promising career had skidded in the mid-'80s. As it turned out, he had just enough talent to show Brian Mitchell off, and not show him up.

The two Mitchells went right at one another in brisk trading from the start. But while Irving pushed his straight punches and arced his hooks, the champion stood flat and delivered short, jolting combinations. That didn't preclude a scare, however, when Brian, 39-1-2 (20), suffered a cut over his right eye in round one. Cutman Don Nelson succeeded in stemming the flow of blood, and the cut was never a factor.

In round three, a thunderbolt right struck the challenger, and a neatly delivered replay punch dropped Irving to the canvas. The game challenger rose and kept his hands moving to escape the round.

After a bitterly contested fourth, the action meandered a bit until Brian collected his attack in the seventh. Irving was hammered relentlessly with short hooks to the head and body. Finally, a double-right folded him over. He lurched upright, but then indicated to referee Nick Drake at the 2:54 mark that he was surrendering.

The loser, 35-7-1, visited the hospital, where he was reportedly treated for three separated ribs. His manager, Beau Williford, said he hoped he could convince Mitchell to retire.

For the nearly 5,000 fans, the main event was really Gamache's 10-rounder against Richie Foster, 131¾, Oklahoma City via Ireland. Riding 18 straight wins, Foster was rugged and determined, but the classy Gamache, 132¼, virtually shut him out. Constantly firing while whirling in reverse, Gamache bloodied his foe, who charged forward relentlessly, like a log being fed to a buzzsaw. Gamache is 17-0; Foster fell to 31-10-1. The referee was Marc Landry.

Though the undercard belonged to Gamache, Olympian Anthony Hembrick, 174¾, Detroit, also appeared, stopping Baltimore's John Keys, 173, at 2:22 of the third round. Hembrick is 7-0 (5).

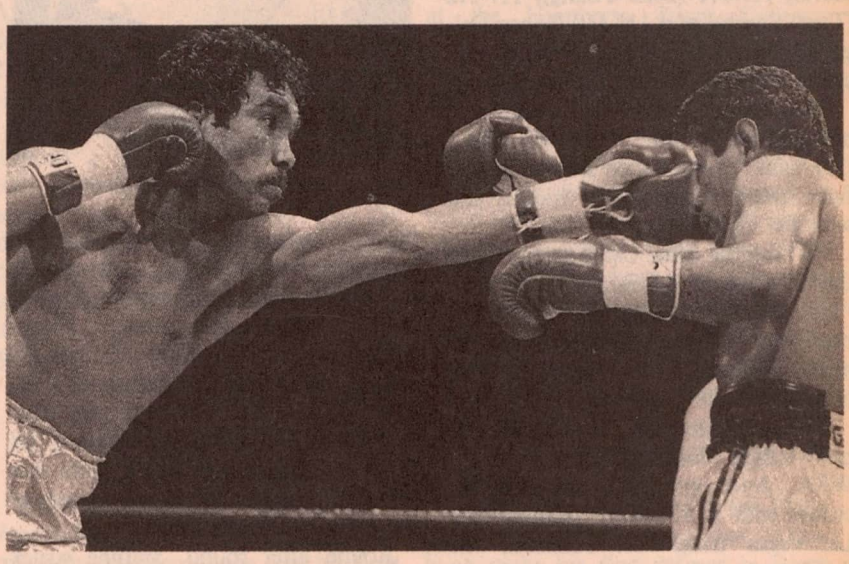
Also, Antoine Byrd, 162, Cleveland, annihilated Carlos Betancourt, 164, Chicago, at 1:17 of round one.

J.R. Jowett

GILBERTO ROMAN-SANTOS LACIAR

INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA—Roman, the defending WBC super flyweight champion, kept this title bout at a safe distance, fearing a clash of heads with the shorter and more aggressive Laciar. Considering that Roman has been disqualified for excessive butting in two of his four defeats, his fears may have been shared by the Argentine challenger.

As it turned out, the third meeting between Roman and Laciar—in their two previous bouts, Laciar won via



Gilberto Roman reaches for Santos Laciar

TKO on cuts and held Roman to draw—featured only a couple of butts, and not too many more punches. Roman failed to capitalize on his world-class jab, but his five-inch reach advantage enabled him to counterpunch effectively, especially over the last half-dozen rounds, and score enough points to ensure a comfortable decision victory.

By the sixth round, the fans at the Great Western Forum were booing

loudly. There were no chants of "May-hee-co! May-hee-co!" and no coins tossed into the ring as a sign of appreciation. This, Roman's 11th defense over the course of his two 115-pound title reigns, was a colossal bore from opening to closing bell.

Roman danced unabashedly in round one, a nothing three minutes. In the second, however, a Laciar right stunned him. It could be argued that Laciar won the third and fourth, as well, but starting with the fifth, Roman accelerated just enough to assume command.

Countering eloquently, but also missing often, Roman, 114¾, avoided confrontation and held whenever Laciar, 114½, worked his way in. For a brief instant in the 10th, Roman actually marched forward, and the crowd responded favorably. But after an unintentional butt in the 11th, the champion returned to his safety-first ways. Ironically, it was Laciar who suffered from the butt. After the round, he returned to his corner with a cut on his scalp, directly above the right eyebrow.

The 27-year-old Roman clinched the victory with a strong 12th round. The scores, 117-111 (Dick Young), 117-112 (Terry Smith), and 118-110 (Vince Delgado) seemed fair, though certain ringside observers saw a much closer fight.

"My strategy was to box him and not go toe to toe," Roman, 53-4-1 (33), said. "I wanted to stay away and fight smart. I did what I wanted and won the fight."

"It was the same old Roman," said the 30-year-old Laciar, 77-9-11 (31). "He was the same as he was when I beat him before. I chased him all night. I thought the fight was a lot closer than the judges did."

In a lively semifinal, Houston southpaw Reggie Johnson, 160, won the WBA Intercontinental middleweight crown with a 12-round decision over Las Vegas' Israel Cole. Johnson, who dominated early and late, is 21-1-1 (12). Cole fell to 10-6-4 (6).

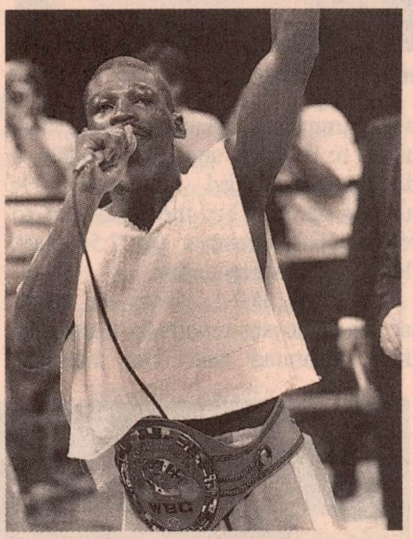
Kenny Baysmore, 130, advanced to the Forum's super featherweight tournament final with a two-round technical draw over Rogelio Lopez, 130. (9-12-89)

MARLON STARLING-YUNGKIL CHUNG

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT—Admiring roars of welcome from a hometown crowd at the Civic Center Coliseum spurred Marlon Starling to a superb performance, as he defended his WBC welterweight title with a 12-round decision over the WBC's top contender, a dogged but outclassed Yungkil Chung of South Korea.

Having sampled his foe's best shots early on, the champion sensed he had little to fear and fought accordingly. One gathered the impression that Starling wanted to go 12 rounds—he hadn't gone that distance for 17 months—to give the largest crowd he has drawn at home a show for its money.

One of the best defensive boxers of



Starling addresses his fans

his era, Starling resembled an armadillo, as he fielded Chung's blows with his gloves, arms, and elbows from a modified peek-a-boo stance. Meanwhile, the rubbery-faced Chung absorbed the champion's punishing shots stoically; only once did he display frustration, in the ninth, after being hit three consecutive right-hand shots that jarred his head. Yet he came out of the fight without a facial mark.

Round after round, Starling struck with all sorts of combinations. Chung absorbed double and triple left jabs, double right-hand leads, left hooks, and a combination of such shots. Counterpunching was the champion's forte throughout. It was a superb display of the art of self-defense. A good show by Starling, though there were bloodthirsty spectators hooting the champ because he didn't score a knockdown or knockout. Those who cheered Starling, however, far outnumbered them.

After 10 tough rounds of battle, a slight lull struck in the 11th. The veteran New York referee Arthur Mercante had the audacity to shout, "Let's get it going!" He got an immediate response from Chung, who was still charged up. The challenger rallied in the 12th to win his only round on *The Ring* scorecard.

The scoring: Victor Cervantes (Mexico) 119-109; Mickey Vann (England) 119-110; Angel Luis Guzman (Puerto Rico) 117-112. *The Ring* had it 119-109.

Former world featherweight champion Willie Pep performed his last duties as inspector of the Connecticut Athletics Division. He has retired from that post. Starling boasted after the bout of having the "great one," as he referred to Pep, initial his boxing gloves.

In the chief support, Kent Hardee, 133½, Greensboro, North Carolina, outpointed Jesse Williams, 138, Orlando, Florida, eight.

The attendance was 7,729, and the gross gate was a state record $276,161. (9-15-89)

Joe Cassano

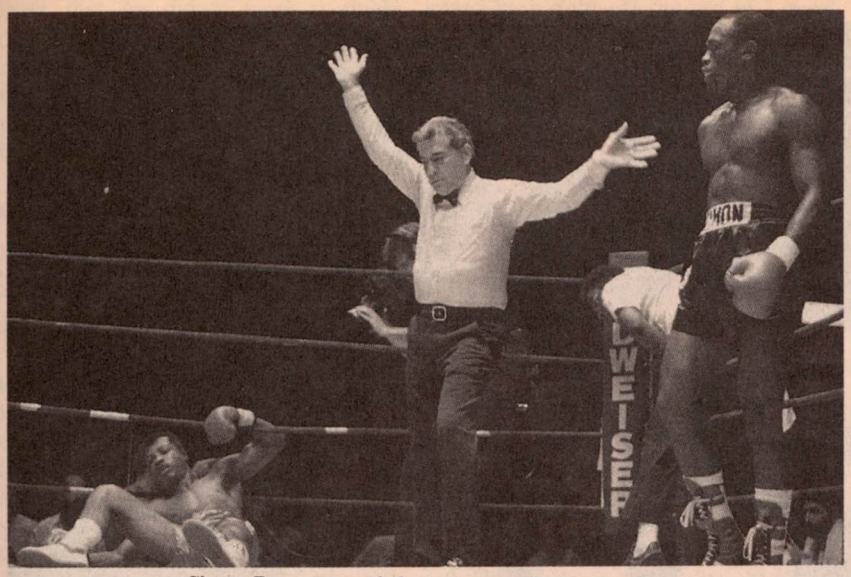
SIMON BROWN-BOBBY JOE YOUNG

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK—Simon Brown, 146¼, Washington, DC, endeavoring to unify the world welterweight titles, enhanced his claim to the division's top spot by demolishing Bobby Joe Young, 146½, Steubenville, Ohio, in two rounds. Brown made his fifth defense of the IBF title. It was Rochester's second world title bout ever (junior middleweight Tadashi Mihara outpointed Rocky Fratto in 1981), and its third pro fight card in two years.

Only 1,500 fans (1,100 paid) attended New York State's only world title fight in 1989. The crowd at the Rochester Memorial Auditorium was much smaller than promoter Don Elbaum had expected. Elbaum needed about 4,000 customers to break even.

From the opening bell, Brown stalked Young, who is the only fighter to have defeated Aaron Pryor. Brown landed several stiff jabs to win the round. Young scored with a solid right just before the bell. It was his only telling blow of the round.

Round two saw the champion pursue his foe for the first two minutes. Finally, in mid-ring, Brown, 31-1 (23),



Simon Brown overwhelms a battered Bobby Joe Young

connected with his vaunted left, stunning Young. The champion followed with a straight right that produced a knockdown. Young, 31-7-1 (23), rose gallantly at referee Joe Santarpia's count of nine, but Brown then severely battered him. Just as Santarpia was about to stop the one-sided contest, a left-right combination placed Young flat. He remained on the canvas for several minutes. The time of the kayo was 2:39.

"If I hit anyone with a left hook, including Marlon Starling, it's all over," said Brown. Starling seems an obsession with Brown; the WBC welterweight champion is responsible for Brown's only loss, a decision bout in 1985. According to Mort Sharnick, Starling's manager, a Brown-Starling fight could happen as early as January.

"After I kayo [Starling], I'll stop Mark Breland, the WBA champ," Brown said triumphantly at the post-fight press conference. "I know I'm the best in the world. 1990 will be my year."

The 30-year-old Young said he would take some time off before re-evaluating his ring future.

The highlight of the evening was the 147-pound semifinal between former IBF junior welterweight champion Joe Manley, 142, Detroit, and Canadian welterweight Donnie Poole, 144¼, Toronto. Manley won a 10-round decision that featured action during and after the bout. After the unanimous verdict (8-2, 7-3, 6-4 in rounds) was announced, Manley traded punches with Teddy Atlas, Poole's trainer, and a brawl erupted. Among the combatants was Manley's 60-year-old father, who left his ringside seat to dive into the ring. Only the prompt action of Syracuse referee Frankie Adams prevented further trouble. Manley was fined $250 by the State Athletic Commission, and Atlas was fined $100. Manley is 29-6-2, Poole 27-4.

In a heavyweight affair, Cleveland's Art Card, 209¾, scored a 10-round decision over Miami's Mark Young, 212. Card won the last eight rounds. He is 9-1. Young fell to 10-13-1.

Cincinnati's Richard Mason, 193, stopped a defenseless Jack Johnson, 200, Hollywood, Florida, in another heavyweight battle. Mason was far ahead on points when referee Adams stopped the contest at 1:54 of round eight. Mason is 11-2-1, and Johnson is 16-12.

(9-20-89)

Angelo Prospero

JESUS ROJAS-FIDEL BASSA

BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA—Venezuelan Jesus "Kiki" Rojas was extremely confident going into his fight with Fidel Bassa, even though his Colombian rival had never lost, had reigned as WBA flyweight champion for more than 2½ years, and had the hometown advantage.

"This will be the best fight there's ever been in the history of Colombia," the 25-year-old Rojas predicted. "I respect the champion very much, but I will beat him because we are similar and I want it more for my country."

The unknown Rojas proved as good as his word, coming on strong in the final three rounds to eke out a split decision and dethrone Bassa. Panamanian judges Humberto Figueroa and Emma de Urrunaga both scored 115-114 for Rojas, while Ecuador's Luis Gonzalo de Fex had it 117-114 for Bassa.

The champion, making his seventh defense of the crown he had won in February 1987 from Hilario Zapata, got off on the wrong foot. In fact, he had trouble with his feet often during the 12-round fight, slipping, sliding, and showing balance problems. A slip put Bassa on the canvas in the first round, and when Rojas hit him as he kneeled, Mexican referee Ernesto Magana took a point away from the challenger.

Bassa set the pace for most of the first nine rounds, as the taller, younger Rojas gave a great hit-and-run tactical display. By the 10th round, both men were bleeding from a clash of heads, and the 26-year-old Bassa was also beginning to show the effects of making the 112-pound limit at the last minute.

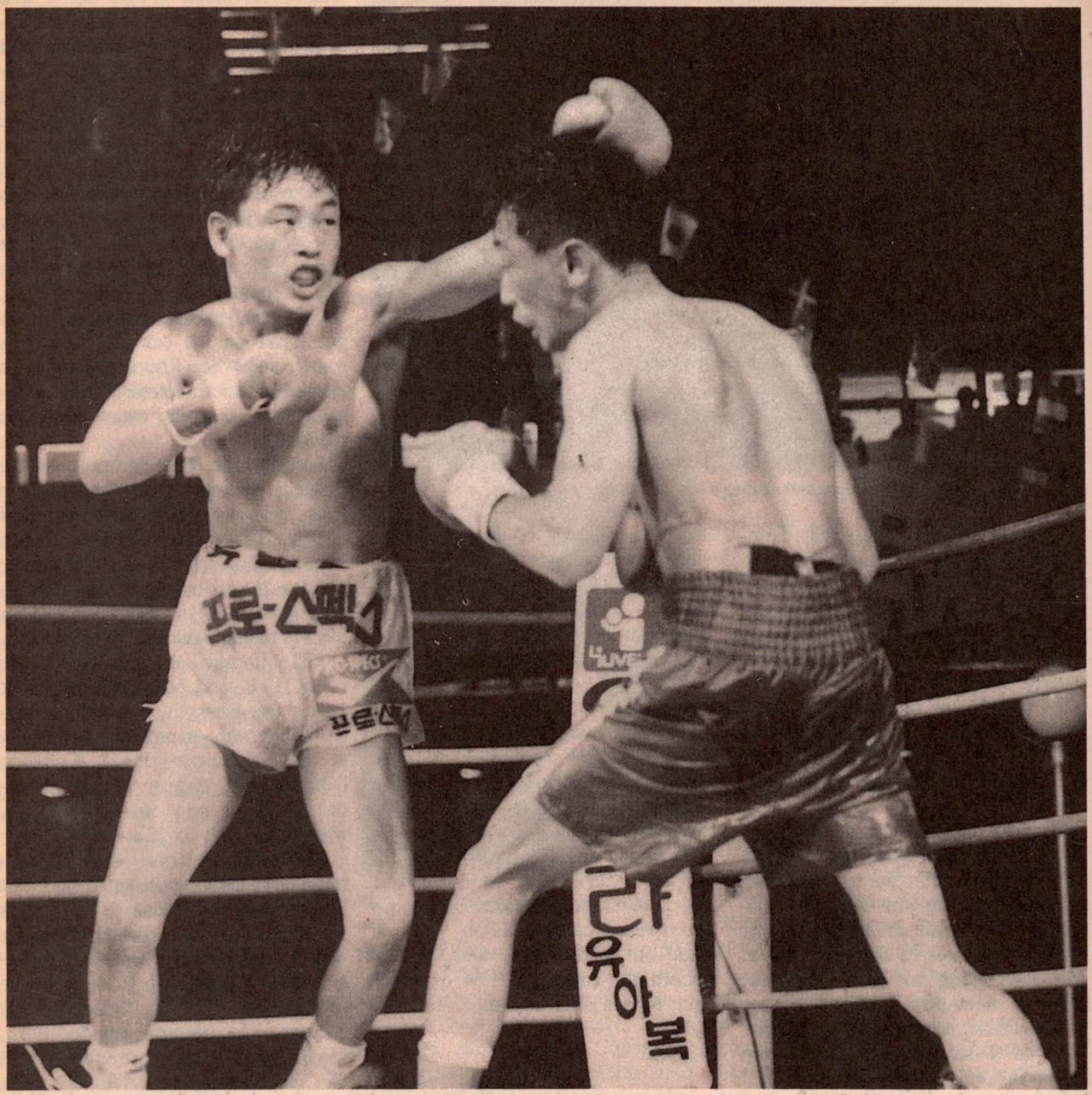
Rojas knocked the champion down in the 10th, and had him almost out on his feet when the final bell sounded. The crowd—approximately 8,000—at the Humberto Perea Coliseum didn't strongly dispute the judges' verdict. Rojas is now reportedly 18-1-1, while Bassa fell to 22-1-1.

"My secret weapon was my optimism and my preparation," said Rojas, the second Venezuelan to hold a world flyweight title (Betulio Gonzalez won the 112-pound crown three different times). "Thanks to God I was able to keep the promise I made to my children. The triumph was for them, for my parents, for all my family, and for Venezuela. Now I want my agent to get me good contracts so I'll be able to provide for my family the best possible."

Rojas, who was named WBA Fighter of the Month for September, is likely to make his first defense in South Korea against either Kim Yong Kang, Yulwoo Lee, or Yun Un Chin. Chin is the only man to beat Rojas as a pro.

For ex-champ Bassa, the sacrifices in the ring may be over. Both fighters' camps agreed a rematch in early 1990 could be held, but Bassa said two days after the bout that he was retiring. Bassa reportedly earned $55,000 for his final defense.

Also on the card, Venezuela's Jose Luis Estiven knocked out Colombia's Tomas Molinares at 2:14 of the second



Yuh Myung Woo lashes out at Kenbun Taiho

round in a junior middleweight duel scheduled for 10. Molinares, a former WBA welterweight champion, suffered his second straight knockout.
(9-30-89)

Bruce Williams

MYUNG WOO YUH-KENBUN TAIHO

SUANBO, SOUTH KOREA—Yuh, the WBA junior flyweight champion, retained the crown, as he dropped Japanese challenger Taiho four times and flattened him at 48 seconds of the 11th round. It was Yuh's 13th defense since topping Joey Olivo in December '85.

Taiho, 107¾, proved no match for the Korean fighting machine, though he started very quickly. Yuh, an unbeaten prohibitive favorite, is a slow starter, and Taiho scored well with counter rights in the first and third rounds.

Yuh, 108, solved the challenger's hit-and-run tactics after the third round. The 25-year-old champion scored with busy and accurate combinations to the face and midsection of the mobile Japanese challenger. Taiho, also 25, began retreating.

In the seventh, Yuh floored his foe with a left uppercut to the stomach after landing a vicious one-two. Taiho fought back hard, but Yuh's continued attacks, as well as his good defense, nullified the challenger's retaliations.

Taiho, an ex-Japanese flyweight titlist, fell again in the ninth. He didn't answer aggressively in the 10th, and Yuh attacked, especially in the closing seconds. After the bell, the boxers continued punching, and Yuh scored another knockdown, which was waved off after Thai referee Piny Prajadsub realized the round was over.

The knockout was imminent at the start of the 11th. Yuh's lethal lefts and rights caused Taiho to sink again, and the fight was over.

Yuh is 32-0 (12), and most observers

forget that he didn't score a single knockout in his first 13 bouts. Taiho, from Osaka, fell to 15-3-3 (6). The record for title defenses at 108 pounds is 15, held by another Korean, Jung Koo Chang, who held the WBC title.

At the time of the stoppage, the scoring was 99-88 (Patricia Jarman, United States), 99-90 (Victor Hurtado, Chile), and 99-91 (Silvester Abainza, Philippines), all in favor of the champion.

In the semifinal, Joo Sup Shin, 107, an unbeaten prospect rated fifth at 105 pounds by the WBA, was awarded a technical decision over Filipino Fred Tipait, 106½, in the fourth round. The Filipino suffered a gash over the left eyebrow that led to the stoppage. He is 8-4-1 (1); Shin, 7-0 (5).

The show was promoted by Thomas Kim's Dong-A Promotions and televised in Korea by MBS.
(9-24-89)

Joe Koizumi

JORGE PAEZ-JOSE LOPEZ

MEXICO CITY—It had been nearly 14 years since the last professional boxing card was held at the Plaza del Toros, a bullring that seats 50,000 spectators who cheer matadors as they risk their lives facing a half-ton of angry pot roast. Then along came Jorge Paez, who burst onto the boxing scene a year ago, and has since stirred fight fans like they've never been stirred before.

Some say he's a boxer of multiple skills. Others laugh him off as a showman who's more image than reality.

But keep this in mind: Paez, 126, holds the IBF featherweight title, and four challengers have failed to take it from him. Argentine champion Jose Mario Lopez, 125¾, was the latest to try. But Paez, a native of Mexicali, Mexico, knocked him out at 1:27 of round two before an estimated crowd of 22,000.

Paez, 31-2-2 (23), felt out Lopez, 47-3-6 (22), early in round one and furiously attacked him later in the round, landing a right to the head. Paez then fired two successive rights that dropped Lopez on the ropes, where he stayed for an eight-count. Paez would have resumed his assault if it were not for the round-ending bell.

Round two looked no better for Lopez. Paez slammed him with big right uppercuts. Then a left uppercut, followed by a right off the top of Lopez' head, sent the challenger to the canvas. He took the 10-count on one knee, unable or unwilling to withstand more punishment.

Afterward, Paez celebrated in a manner befitting the Marquis de Sade. He pummeled himself in the face with a flurry of punches, far more punishment than he endured in the bout. Then he performed a handstand and pushups on the top rope, followed by backflips in the center of the ring and a bit of breakdancing in his Aztec-style sequined trunks. All of which did nothing to endear him to ringside officials, who resented him for having shaved *IBF* on the right side of his head.

But Paez went too far when he failed to show up for the Federal District Boxing Commission's postfight drug testing. He and agent Ignacio Huizar said there was no rule that they had to take a test. And, Hulzar added, Paez left for his hotel room because the mob near his dressing room was getting out of control.

The Commission, whose president is Jose Sulaiman, fined Paez 2.5 million pesos, the equivalent of $1,000. But Paez refused to pay the fine, and the Commission revoked his boxing license in Mexico City.

Said Sulaiman: "I want to make it clear that I don't have anything personal against Senor Paez." he said. "The doors are always open to him when he comes showing respect for authorities."

On the undercard, Miguel Angel Dominiguez took the Mexican welterweight title from Jesus Cardenas when the latter was unable to answer the bell for round seven. Cardenas, 5-2-1, thus became the fifth straight champion to lose the national welterweight crown in his first defense.

Sulio Sanchez, a former Mexican welterweight champion and brother of Salvador Sanchez, took a unanimous 10-round decision over Luis Francisco Perez. The judges scored 98-94, 97-95, and 98-92.
(9-16-89)

Bruce Williams

JOHN-JOHN MOLINA-TONY LOPEZ

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA—Puerto Rico's John-John Molina finally got his revenge in the same ring where, a year earlier, he was the victim of a hometown decision. Molina dominated and busted up Tony Lopez to the point that referee Dr. James Jen Kin mercifully ended the contest at 2:09 of round 10. Molina captured the IBF junior lightweight title as a 2-1 underdog.

"After the first round I knew that I would become champion," the 24-year-old Molina said through an interpreter. "I was cheated last year. He was easy to hit, and the only time he hurt me was when we bumped heads together."

The 26-year-old Lopez, 33-2 (23), had requested a return bout with Molina despite the objections of his cornermen. Such are the wages of pride.

There were no knockdowns, but Molina made Lopez' face look like he had been falling down a flight of stairs all afternoon. Molina, 20-2 (14), put on a great performance, constantly attacking, counterpunching, and beating the champion to the trigger while seldom getting hit.

In the third, Lopez' right eye began to swell. It soon became bloated and shut. In the fifth, Molina sliced open a cut over Lopez' left eye, and by the seventh, the fading champion was bleeding from both nostrils.

Lou Duva, Molina's manager, mused about yet another return engagement, and, from his perspective, why not? The new champion won every round on *The Ring* scorecard, and a third meeting would certainly not take place in Lopez-crazy Sacramento.

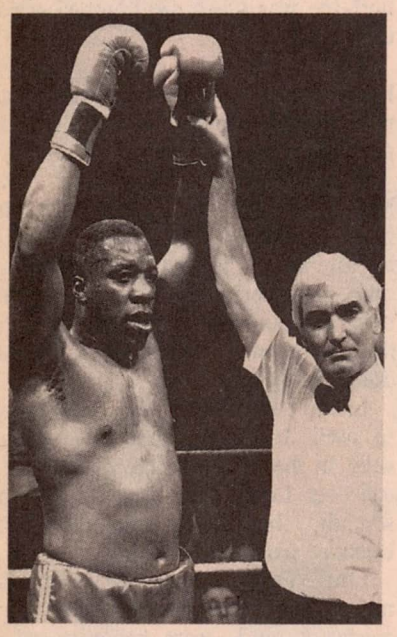
When Jen Kin stopped the bout after Lopez' head was snapped back by a jab, the hometown favorite wandered to a corner and bowed his head in defeat. There was no fight or protest in him. Not so for the audience, however. Beer cups came flying out of the crowd and into the ring. The new champion was rushed away by security guards. The main event, a Don Chargin promotion, was televised nationally by NBC, whose cameras captured the ugly mini-riot.

A crowd of 5,013 paid $172,860. Molina received $45,000. Lopez was paid $182,000 for his misery.

On the undercard, Richard Duran, 123½, Sacramento, won a unanimous six-round decision over Jorge Garcia, 124, Monterey. Duran came into the bout with a record of 6-0 (6). All of his kayos had been registered in the first round.
(10-9-89)

Christopher Coats □

WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS



Gary Mason kayos Tyrell Biggs

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Gary Mason KO 7 Tyrell Biggs
Bonecrusher Smith KO 8 Calvin Jones
Ray Mercer KO 2 Arthel Lawhorne
Riddick Bowe KO 1 Earl Lewis
Riddick Bowe KO 1 Tony Hayes
Lennox Lewis KO 4 Andy Gerrard

CRUISERWEIGHTS
John Emmen W 10 Ralf Rocchigiani
Michael Greer KO 5 Kevin Poindexter
Marvin Camel W 10 J.J Cottrell

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Frankie Swindell KO 1 Rodney Thomas
Uriah Grant KO 6 Manuel Murillo
Mike Peak W 12 Greg Everett
Rodrigo Benech KO 3 Felipe Nino
Rodrigo Benech KO 3 Eduardo Carranza
Guy Waters W 12 Roy Skeldon
Anthony Hembrick KO 3 John Keys

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
In Chul Baek KO 11 Ron Essett
(Retains WBA Title)
David Vedder W 10 Sean Mannion
Tyrone Frazier KO 9 James Barham

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Matthew Hilton KO 10 Tim Williams
Darrin Van Horn W 10 Saleem Muhammad
Darrin Van Horn W 10 Mike Sachetti
Frank Winterstein KO 4 Kid Taylor
Tony Thornton W 10 Hector Rosario
Francesco Dell'Aquila KO 8 Rexfort Kortram
Lupe Aquino KO 2 Pipino Cuevas
Brinatti Maquillon KO 8 Buster Drayton
Buster Drayton W 10 Daryl Fromm
Reggie Johnson W 12 Israel Cole
John Scully W 10 Anthony Daley
Danny Morgan KO 6 Ronnie Warrior

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Terry Norris KO 4 Nathan Dryer
Troy Waters W 12 Judas Clottey
Jose Luis Estevens KO 2 Tomas Molinares
Brett Lally W 10 Tomas Perez
Glenn Wolfe KO 4 Danny Garcia

WELTERWEIGHTS
Simon Brown KO 2 Bobby Joe Young
(Retains IBF Title)
Marlon Starling W 12 Yungkil Chung
(Retains WBC Title)
Glenwood Brown KO 7 Donovan Boucher
Engels Pedroza KO 3 Young Dick Tiger
Rene Arredondo KO 3 Jorge Hernandez
Joe Manley W 10 Donny Poole
Miguel Dominguez KO 7 Jesus Cardenas
Luis Santana W 10 Jorge Maysonet
Kevin Pompey W 10 J.J. Watters
Ernie Chavez W 10 Musonda Chinungu
Robert Wangila KO 5 Anthony Martinez

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Juan Coggi KO 9 Omat Alegre
(Non-Title Bout)
Fred Pendleton KO 1 Carlos Brandi
Joey Gamache W 10 Richie Foster
Joe Rivera KO 4 Jorge Hernandez
Tony Adams KO 3 Alex Dickson
Pat Barrett KO 4 Dana Roston
Rodney Moore W 10 Willie Taylor
Owen McGeachy W 10 John Rafuse
Roberto Garcia KO 9 Momong Manaay
Jamie Balboa KO 5 Roque Montoya

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Pedro Sanchez W 10 Luis Andino
Darryl Tyson W 10 Richie Otero
Kenny Vice KO 2 Antonio Carter
Kelcie Banks KO 4 Frank Ventura

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
John-John Molina KO 10 Tony Lopez
(Wins IBF Title)
Brian Mitchell KO 7 Irving Mitchell
(Retains WBA Title)
Edward Parker KO 7 Robert Byrd
John Doherty KO 11 Floyd Havard
John Reefer W 12 John Sichula

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Antonio Esparragoza KO 5 Fili Montoya
(Retains WBA Title)
Tracy Patterson W 10 Jose Soto
Tom Johnson KO 3 Herman Rodriguez

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Fabrice Benichou W 12 Ramon Cruz
(Retains IBF Title)
Luisito Espinosa W 10 Kiichi Ozaki
Jesus Poll W 10 Joe Orewa

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Gerardo Martinez TW 5 Edel Geronimo
Israel Contreras KO 5 Pascual Polanco
Hurley Snead KO 8 Jose Soto
Eddie Rangel KO 5 Diego Briones
Robert Quiroga KO 6 Jesus Portillo

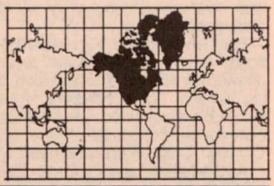
JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Yong Heun Lee KO 1 Adrian Roman

FLYWEIGHTS
Jesus Rojas W 12 Fidel Bassa
(Wins WBA Title)
Sot Chitalada W 10 Welgie Leonora
(Non-Title Bout)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS
Yuh Myung Woo KO 11 Taiho Kenbun
(Retains WBA Title)

STRAWWEIGHTS
Eric Chavez KO 5 Nico Thomas
(Wins IBF Title)
Javier Varguez KO 4 Jacinto Escalante

The RING AROUND THE WORLD



NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

►**SAN JOSE**—For 11 rounds, it was a typical workmanlike performance for USBA junior middleweight champion **Art Serwano**. But Serwano exploded in the 12th round to stop challenger **Jesse Flores** at the Civic Auditorium. During most of the fight, Serwano, 153, Richmond, used a quick left jab and methodically outboxed Flores, 154, Stockton, who is tough but painfully slow.

Serwano stunned Flores in the fourth with a right hand, but otherwise was content to counter Flores' ineffective rushes. The crowd occasionally booed the sporadic action, although there were good exchanges in the eighth and ninth rounds. Early in the 12th, a spent Flores dropped his hands in surrender and Serwano moved in for the finish. Although he never went down, Flores was cornered and defenseless when referee Terry Smith wisely stopped the fight 1:53 into the round.

"This guy, he wasn't a good boxer, but he was tough and kept coming," said Serwano. "I wanted to slug with him some to show I could do it."

Serwano is now 12-0-1, although his record is reported as 17-0-1. Flores dropped to 22-5.

Joey Jo Joll Amato, 159, San Jose, scored a unanimous four-round decision over Johnny Apollo, Las Vegas. Amato, coming off a first-round knockout loss, looked tentative and caught plenty of punches. Apollo, however, simply had no skills. Scores were 39-37, 39-37, and 40-36. Amato is now 4-1 (2). Apollo fell to 1-3 (1).

Carlos Perez, 143, San Jose, had an easy time with Jorge Marino, 142, Reno, decking his man once in the first round and again in the second before referee Frank Rustic stopped the bout 54 seconds into round two. Marino, 0-4, went down the second time from a left to the belly. Perez is 4-3 (1).

Carlos Cruz, 160, San Jose, stopped Sergio Reyes, 157, Scottsdale, in the fifth round to run his record to 9-0 (7). Reyes was eating punches from the fourth round on until referee Fritz Warner stopped it 2:40 into the fifth. There were no knockdowns. Reyes is 5-4 (4).

The walk-out bout was the night's best, as the crowd rained coins and dollar bills into the ring after Heriberto Rodriguez, 117, Santa Monica, outpointed Rafael Torres, 118, Redwood City, over four rounds. Torres, 2-1 (1), was down once in the second round, but battled back to make it close. Scores were 38-37, 38-37, and 38-38. Rodriguez is 2-1. Frank Rustin was the referee.

Raul Acuna, 142, San Jose, knocked Mehmet Kilic, 141, Reno, cold with a left hook, and Rustin administered the 10-count at 1:56 into the first round. Acuna is 2-1 (1), Kilic 1-4 (1).

The attendance for the J&J promotion was estimated to be 1,000.
(9-14-89)

Eric Bottjer

CONNECTICUT

►**HARTFORD**—They call him **"Gentleman" John Scully**, but there was nothing gentlemanly about him during his New England middleweight title fight with **Tony Daley** in a 10-round bout.

Scully, Windsor, whipped Daley, New Britain, over 10 rounds for his 15th victory.

"It's the first time I've fought 10 rounds to my satisfaction," Scully said.

Two of three judges gave Scully as many as nine rounds in awarding him a unanimous decision. *The Ring* had it 7-1-2.

The fifth was Scully's best round, as he slammed Daley with booming rights to his face.

During round seven, it appeared as if stomach cramps had gripped the eventual winner, who looked tired and winded in the eighth. In the ninth, Daley struck Scully below the belt, and referee Lou Bogash penalized him. In the 10th, Scully went to in-fighting and scored his biggest round.

Troy Wortham, 158, Hartford, scored his 31st victory in a co-feature 10-rounder by stopping Elliot Williams, 161, Hartford, in five rounds. Wortham is scheduled to compete in the upcoming Stroh's $100,000 middleweight tournament in Inglewood, California. Williams surrendered on his stool. Wortham, whose only loss was to Mark Breland three years ago, scored with jabs and right crosses to post his 18th knockout.

Tim Tsopanides, 201, Norwalk, stopped Gil Torres, 208, Puerto Rico, in 33 seconds of round one.

Howard Grant, 137, Montreal, Canada, halted Ray Bright, 137, New Haven, in 50 seconds of round two.

Jose Beato, 110, Hartford, outpointed Adam Aviles, 113, Springfield, Massachusetts, in four rounds.

Angel Gonzalez, 121, Hartford, stopped Jose Soto, 125, Springfield, in 41 seconds of round two.

"Irish" John Fertin, 135, Springfield, decisioned Juan Torres, 135, Hartford, in six rounds.

Eddie Correa, 139, Springfield, decisioned Willie Alicea, 137, Waterbury, in six rounds.

The officials were Lou Bogash, Matt Mullaney, John Lawson, Sam Maltempo, and Bob Muravnick. The timekeepers were Lou Doll and Pat Ruane. The physician was Dr. James O'Brien. The ring announcer was Brad Davis. The promoter was F. Mac Buckley. The attendance was an announced 1,494, and the gross was $2,300.
(9-29-89)

Joe Cassano

FLORIDA

►**MIAMI**—**Glenn "The Big Bad" Wolfe**, 154¼, Miami, ran his record to 23-1-1, as he stopped **Danny Varcas**, 151½, Harlingen, Texas, at 2:52 of the eighth and final round at the Jai-Alai Fronton. Varcas is 28-9.

Manuel Murillo, 175, Hialeah, knocked out Francisco Martinez, 175¼, Miami, at 1:47 of the second round in a scheduled eight. Murillo's record is open to conjecture. Martinez' slate reads 17-6.

Pedro Laza, 142½, Miami, used a steady jab to set up left hooks to the body and overhand rights to the head of Felipe Julio, 142¼, Miami Beach, en route to an eight-round unanimous decision victory. The scores were 80-72, 80-74, and 79-73. Laza is now 28-4; Julio, 24-9.

John Fonte, 136½, Fort Lauderdale, scored a TKO over Raphael Rodriguez, 139¼, Homestead, in the final round of their six-round bout. Fonte is 5-1-1, while Rodriguez dropped to 2-8.

James Johnson, 156½, Miami, won a unanimous six-round decision over fellow Miamian Harold Williams, 160. Johnson's record is 6-4-2. Williams is 4-6-2.

The walkout between Kenny Weldgen, 144¼, Lake Worth, and Clinton Mack, 151, Miami, ended in a draw after four rounds.

The Tiburon Promotions Inc. show drew an estimated crowd of 600. The referees were William Connors, Juan Arias, and Bernie Soto. Judging were John Rupert, Rick Bays, Al Wilensky, Mark Streisand, Mary Mosca, and Robert Balough.
(8-18-89)

►**TAMPA**—For Florida welterweight champ **Delfino "Chicano" Marin**, it was the biggest fight of his young career—a 10-round go against a former world titlist at the Hyatt Regency Downtown, only 50 miles from his hometown. For **Lloyd Honeyghan**, once the undisputed king of the 147-pounders, the bout against the 22-year-old Marin was merely a perfunctory tuneup for yet another try for a world championship belt.

For two rounds, Marin, 149¼, was quite competitive, as he jarred Honeyghan, also 149¼, with right-left combinations to the head. But a right uppercut from Honeyghan early in the third round bruised one of Marin's ribs, reducing him to a tentative stalker who never really got off the rest of the way.

The 29-year-old Honeyghan, 37-2, was making his first start since his February 1989 loss to WBC welterweight king Marlon Starling. Marin, 14-4, Auburndale, last fought in June, when he retained his state title in a 12-round war against rugged Dexter Smith. Few observers gave Marin a chance to win this one, and most doubted that he'd be around for the 10th round. But he displayed dogged determination in the face of a pummelling administered by Honeyghan.

The fight started as most people expected, with Honeyghan taking control early with sharp jabs and crackling shots that found their mark often. But with less than a minute gone in the round, Marin countered with a right-left combo that made Honeyghan back off. Honeyghan eventually reasserted himself as the aggressor, but was nailed with a hard right to the head with less than 10 seconds remaining.

Marin, his confidence growing, opened the second with solid left hooks to Honeyghan's head as he crowded the former champion. Honeyghan looked shocked at what was happening to him, but he slowly started to work his way back into the action with hard shots to Marin's body. The first round had been close, but Marin clearly won the second. Honeyghan looked bewildered as he sat in his corner awaiting the bell for the third frame.

But in the third, it all came together for Honeyghan. He scored early with several jolting uppercuts, one of which bruised Marin's ribs.

"After that, he [Marin] kept his right elbow down at his side and just tried to last the distance," explained Jack Leonard, Marin's manager. It was all Honeyghan after that. He put on a boxing display and won every remaining round, opening a cut under Marin's left eye in the fourth, and showing off every punch in his considerable arsenal.

The final scores reflected Honeyghan's dominance. He won by tallies of 99-91, 98-94, and 99-92. In the end, each man got a measure of what he had desired going into the fight. Honeyghan got a good workout, albeit a much tougher one than he'd expected; Marin proved to the doubters and himself that he could last the distance and provide a good effort against a world- class fighter.

The co-main event featured two fighters well past their primes. But 33-year-old Gary Hinton, the former IBF junior welterweight champion, and 42-year-old Saoul Mamby, the former WBC super lightweight champion, produced a truly entertaining battle that ended in the unlikeliest of ways.

For Hinton, 29-5-2, 146½, Darby, Pennsylvania, it was only his second fight in a year. Mamby, 40-21-6, 147¾, Bronx, last fought a 10-round draw with Elvis Perez in April.

The first two rounds were pretty slow, but the action moved inside in the second, and the exchanges heated up considerably in the third. The fighters made nearly as much contact with their heads as they did with their gloves. In the fourth, Hinton began shrugging off Mamby's counter shots

and walked right through his defense to land often and hard.

The fifth was a great action round, as the momentum ebbed and flowed between these two ancient warriors. Hinton kept moving forward, landing often with jarring left hooks to the head. Mamby, never known as a heavy hitter, suddenly turned it on with only 15 seconds left in the stanza, landing two left hooks over Hinton's low right hand. He wobbled Hinton at the bell with another left hook.

The slugfest continued through the eighth round. Near the end of that frame, Mamby stunned Hinton with a couple of jabs followed by a right to the head. Hinton was reeling, but Mamby couldn't finish him. Then Mamby sensed he had Hinton in trouble and wasted no time in attacking his wounded quarry at the start of the ninth. Mamby landed a right uppercut and followed it with a straight hand square on the chin; Hinton toppled to the canvas. Referee Max Parker Jr. stopped it immediately. The end came at 35 seconds of the ninth, and Mamby had his first knockout victory in four years.

Mamby said afterward that he felt he was losing the fight up until the knockout. He was right. Hinton was winning through eight rounds on all three cards by scores of 77-75, 77-75, and 78-76.

Prior to the bout, Mamby had predicted a win, saying, "The strong will always overpower the weak, but the smart will always overpower the strong." Given the result of the bout, how are you going to argue with that?

Willie Monroe, 161, Ithaca, New York, opened a cut over the right eye of Tony Bonds, 158½, Lake Wales, forcing Bonds to retire on his stool at the end of the seventh round. It was scheduled for eight. Bonds went down twice in the first round, but rebounded to stagger Monroe in the fourth and fifth frames. However, Bonds was trailing on all three cards when the bout ended. Monroe improved to 13-1, while Bonds slipped to 4-2.

Ocala heavyweight Tom Sandner, 216, ran his unblemished record to 6-0 (6) with a knockout of Ken Myers, 203¼, Columbia, South Carolina, at 1:01 of the first. It was scheduled for six. All of Sandner's knockouts have come within two rounds. Myers fell to 1-2.

Gary Logan, 149, London, thumped Michael English, 149, Columbia, South Carolina, scoring a TKO at 24 seconds of the second round of a scheduled four. Logan is 9-0; English, 15-9.

Debuting Michael Harris, 195, St. Petersburg, surprised Anthony Abrams, 186, Orlando, stopping him at 47 seconds of the first. It was scheduled for four. Abrams dropped to 3-1.

The Alessi Promotions show was televised by the USA Network and drew an estimated crowd of 1,100. The referees were Parker Jr. and Brian Garry. The judges were Derrell Brown, Tom Brown, Wilson Robinson, and Frank Skilbred.
(8-24-89)

►**MIAMI**—New York lightweight **Pedro Sanchez** and Puerto Rico's **Luis Andino** fought a 10-round war at the James L. Knight Center. It was one of those struggles in which the outcome is obvious to everyone except the losing fighter. Sanchez, 13-0-1, won by losided scores of 98-90, 98-91, and 96-93, but Andino never quit punching and refused to fold up and quietly slip away.

This bout was fought at a furious pace from the opening bell, although Andino consistently got the worst of the torrid exchanges. When Andino landed one blow, Sanchez landed two. When Andino scored, Sanchez returned fire with shots that snapped Andino's head back. Sanchez, 136¼, displayed excellent power, but wasn't able to put Andino away. When it was over, the crowd was on its feet saluting the efforts of both men. Andino, 135¼, is now 10-2.

Rudolfo Marin, 228¼, Puerto Rico, remained unbeaten (12-0), as he registered a TKO over Amos Lisboa-Casillas, 216, Puerto Rico, at 18 seconds of the third round in a scheduled eight.

Roman Rolon, 117, Puerto Rico, stopped Marco Gomez, 116¼, Miami, at 2:59 of the fifth; scheduled for six. Rolon moved to 2-0; Gomez is 7-3.

Angel Mike Cruz, 127½, Miami, took out Angel Sanchez, 124, Homestead, at 1:20 of the second; scheduled for six. Cruz is 15-1, while Sanchez fell to 6-3.

Gino Calvillo, 152¼, Cleveland, came a long way for his fight against Sonny Jones, 158¼, but the trip was worth it, as he came away with a unanimous six-round decision win. Calvillo is undefeated at 4-0. Jones slipped under the .500 mark to 5-6-3.

Michael Ward, 149, Fort Washington, Maryland, had a successful pro debut, scoring a TKO over experienced Johnny Valentin, 149, Miami. The fight was stopped at 1:18 of the second; scheduled for four. Valentin is 5-5.

Glen Modice, 153, Monroe, Louisiana, upped his record to 5-0 with a four-round unanimous decision win over Miamian Dario Liriano, 153. Liriano is 18-5.

The referees were Bernie Soto, Eddie Eckert, and Juan Arias. The judges were Rick Bays, Mary Mosca, Irv Abramson, John Rupert, Mark Streisand, and Al Wilensky. This Don King promotion was televised by Univision. The attendance was a reported 700.
(8-25-89)

►**MIAMI—Uriah Grant**, 174¾, Miami, captured the vacant IBF Intercontinental championship with a sixth-round stoppage of **Manuel Murillo**, 172¾, Hialeah, at the Jai-Alai Fronton. The end came at the 2:10 mark of the sixth. The bout was scheduled for 12. Grant's record is 20-5; Murillo's mark is uncertain, according to the Florida State Athletic Commission.

Freddy Pendleton, 141¾, Miami, and Carlos Brandi, 138, Miami, were slated to hook up in a 10-round fight, but Pendleton put an early stop to those plans as he scored a TKO at 1:01 of the first round. Pendleton ran his record to 25-16-3, while Brandi dropped to 12-3.

In another scheduled 10-rounder, Glenn "The Big Bad" Wolfe, 151¾, Miami, made short work of Danny Garcia, 154, Puerto Rico, taking him out at 59 seconds of the fourth round. Wolfe imrpoved to 24-1-1; Garcia fell to 20-3.

Fort Lauderdale's John Fonte, 137, garnered a six-round unanimous decision over Emilio Sotomayer, 138¼, Miami. Fonte is 7-1-1; Sotomayor is a reported 20-3-1.

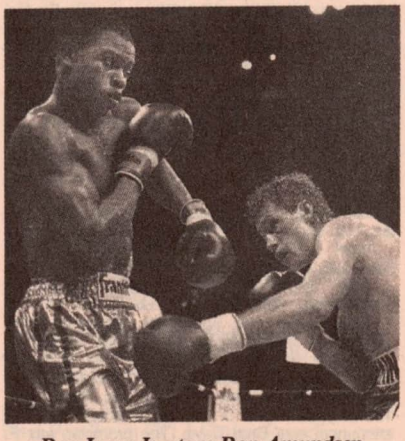
Steve Wolin, 128½, Miramar, won a unanimous decision over Michael McClendon, 128½, Miami, in four rounds to register his fifth win against only one loss. McClendon slipped to 2-3.

In a battle of debuting big men, Thomas Muccigrosso, 176, Miami, stopped fellow Miamian Oscar Silva, 186, at 2:59 of the second round, scheduled for four.

Bruce Seldon, 222, Atlantic City, continued his winning ways with a knockout of Isaac Poole, 222, Miami, at 1:30 of the first; scheduled for four. Seldon's record is 7-0. Poole has yet to win in two outings.

The show was promoted by Tiburon Promotions and drew an estimated 600 fans. The referees were William Connors, Juan Arias, and Bernie Soto. The judges were Frank Skilbred, Rick Bays, Stu Winston, Mary Mosca, Robert Balough, and Mark Streisand.
(9-15-89)

►**PENSACOLA—Roy Jones Jr.** continues to mature and impress as a pro. After only three outings in the bigs, he is beginning to make his presence felt among the ranks of the junior middleweight division.



Roy Jones Jr. stops Ron Amundsen

When he turned pro here in May—with a second-round TKO of Ricky Randle—he was still very much an amateur. But on this afternoon, in front of about 4,700 screaming fans and thousands more tuned into NBC-TV's SportsWorld, Jones was dazzling.

The 1988 Olympic silver medalist took a few shots from a gutty **Ron Amundsen**, 16-2-1, but he pummeled Amundsen for six rounds before burying him under a withering barrage of punches at 2:43 of the seventh; scheduled for eight.

Jones, 155, entered the ring to the beat of the rap song *"Knock 'Em Out the Ring, Roy,"* a paean penned by a teenage fan of the hometown hero. Jones appeared comfortable and supremely confident. He immediately asserted his dominance in the first round, even though one judge gave that stanza to Amundsen, 151½, Chicago. That was the only round Amundsen won, although he aggressively pursued Jones throughout and tagged him in the fourth and sixth rounds.

Jones displayed excellent movement, lightning-quick hands that he fired in combination like well-oiled pistons, and fine counterpunching. For all Jones' punching, though, Amundsen refused to fold until the fateful seventh. About midway through that round, Jones landed a solid left hook to the head that dropped Amundsen to his knees. It was only the second time in his career that he'd been off his feet. Amundsen beat the count, but Jones swarmed over him, backing him into a corner and raining punches with both hands in a blinding frenzy. Referee William Connors stepped in quickly and waved it off.

Another Olympian, Riddick Bowe, was also on the nine-bout card. Bowe, 219½, New York, tore into a pitiful Lee Moore from the opening bell and mercifully ended the mismatch with a short right uppercut at 2:13 of the first; scheduled for six. Bowe, the 1988 silver medalist in the super heavyweight division, improved to 6-0. Moore, 231½, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, fell to a reported 6-2-1 and was suspended indefinitely by the state atheltic commission.

Featherweight Ed Hopson, 123½, St. Louis, Missouri, ran his unblemished record to 4-0 with a convincing six-round unanimous decision over David Moreno, 122¾, Houston. Hopson is an 18-year-old high school senior who lost a controversial decision to Kelcie Banks in the finals of the 1988 Olympic Trials. Moreno slipped to 10-5.

At 0-4-1, Pensacola's Daron Dale might have decided that professional boxing was not his calling. But Dale, 138½, locked horns with Paul Dewberry, 135, Theodor, Alabama, and came away with a six-round unanimous decision win. Dewberry's record is 6-6.

David Sewell, 173½, Pensacola, moved to 3-0 with a six-round unanimous decision over Don Johnson, 177½, Memphis. Johnson is still looking for his first win. He is 0-1-1.

Debuting Billy Wayne Lewis, 169, Pensacola, stopped Gerome Peete, 159, Memphis, at 1:06 of the second round; scheduled for four. Peete remained winless at 0-3.

Joe Adams, 197, Memphis, garnered a split decision over Mark Walden, 192½, Gulf Breeze, over four rounds. Adams crept over the .500 mark to 5-4. Walden dropped to 1-1.

Curtis Johnson, 146¾, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, broke into the win column with a knockout of debuting Michael Dale, 149, Pensacola, at 2:13 of the second; scheduled for four. Johnson is 1-2.

In the walkout, Willie Donahoo, 129¾, Pensacola, thrilled the locals with a knockout of Harlan Hammac, 132½, Mobile, Alabama, at 40 seconds of the first; scheduled for four. Donahoo is 2-0, while Hammac fell to 9-7.

The card was promoted by Square Ring Inc. The referees were Connors and Frank Santore. The judges were Tony Palermo, Dan Raicevich, and Frank Skilbred.
(9-3-89)

►**HIALEAH—Mauricio Rodriguez**, 145½, Homestead, is not known as a knockout artist, having racked up only 16 stoppages in his 36 wins coming into this fight against Mexican **Rodriguez Daniel Felizardo**. But on this night at The Sheraton, Rodriguez improved his record to 38-2 and his knockout total to 17, as he kayoed the 33-year-old Felizardo at 2:30 of the second; scheduled for 10. Felizardo, 142, fell to a reported 27-10-2.

Unbeaten Jorge Romero, 129½, Miami, garnered a TKO over Sierra Benito Rodriguez, 125, Mexico, at 48 seconds of the fourth; scheduled for eight. Romero is now 17-0, while Rodriguez' slate is 14-4.

Angel Mike Cruz, fighting for the second time in two weeks, came away from his bout with Jose Zapete, 135, Miami, with his second consecutive stoppage. Cruz, 128, Miami, improved to 16-1 with a knockout at 1:45 of the first; scheduled for six. Zapete is 7-3.

James Warring, 196, Miami, scored a six-round unanimous decision over Lee Daniel Wofford, 209½, Spartanburg, South Carolina. Warring is 12-1, while Wofford slipped to 5-4-1.

Miami heavyweight Melton Bowen, 208, knocked out a more experienced Dario De Asa, 199, Miami, at 2:12 of the first; scheduled for six. Bowen is 21-1; De Asa, 23-8-1.

An unintentional clash of heads resulted in a technical draw between Freddy Sanchez-Martinez, 2-0-1, and Frankie Glenn, 3-1-1. It was scheduled

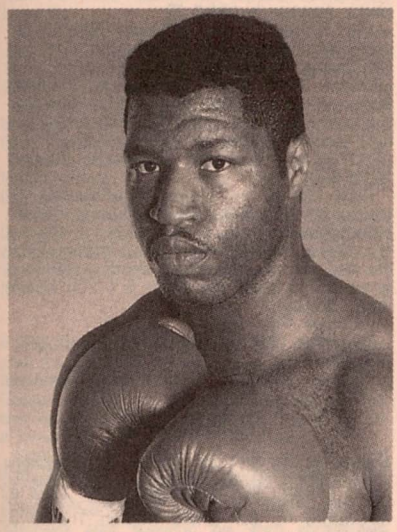
for six.

Phillip Jackson, 191, Miami, spoiled the pro debut of John Ford, 196½, Miami, stopping him at 1:45 of the first; scheduled for four.

Another professional debut had a successful ending, as Osvaldo Castro, 161, Miami, scored a TKO over hapless Sylvan Plowright, 161, Miami, at 1:04 of the third; scheduled for four. Plowright is 0-6.

The show was promoted by Uppercut Promotions Inc. and drew an estimated crowd of 500. The referees were William Connors, Eddie Eckert, and Armondo Garcia. The judges were Stu Winston, Vivian Berman, Al Wilensky, and Mark Conn.
(9-8-89)

Ken Knox



Heavyweight Ray Mercer

►**JACKSONVILLE—"Merciless" Ray Mercer**, 211, returned to his roots to headline a rather embarrassingly short card at Veteran's Coliseum. Mercer, now 9-0 (8), took his scheduled 10-rounder by a TKO at 1:05 of the second stanza over an obscenely fat **Arthel Lawhorne**, 239¾, Detroit. Lawhorne managed to guile and smile his way through round one, but tasted the canvas twice in the second, as the rampaging Mercer decided to finish his foe. Lawhorne, who just three-and-a-half years ago weighed 176, had Leon Spinks working his corner. Did "Neon" Leon let this guy skip his workouts?

In a scheduled six, Tommy Morrison, 212, Kansas City (Kansas or Missouri, he doesn't want to offend either state), upped his mark to 17-0 (15), as he floored poor same-day sub David Jaco, 201, Sarasota, with one left hook. It was all over after 37 seconds of the first round. The referee was Brian Garry.

Riddick Bowe, 226½, Brooklyn, took his second first-round knockout win in less than a week when he floored a scared Earl Lewis, 204, Orlando, twice and finished him at 1:26 of the first. Bowe is 8-0 (7). The referee was Mike Boggs.

Robert Wangila, 150, Nairobi via Las Vegas, continues to win, but also fails to impress. Wangila, 7-0 (4), took his scheduled six with Anthony Martinez, 150, Miami, by knockout at 2:29 of the fifth. Martinez was down a total of three times (rounds one, three, and five) and was hindered by cuts near both eyes. He also had a point deducted by referee Telis Assimemios for hitting on the break. Still, Martinez was close to putting the awkward Wangila down and possibly away. Wangila can bang, but he has serious balance problems. And who is teaching him how to put punches together?

In the walkout bout, local Tommy Richardson, 189, may not have felt quite at home when his scheduled (according to the bout sheet) six was reduced to a four, and he dropped a majority decision to Beau Johnson, 215, Fort Pierce. The southpaw from Jacksonville was clearly distraught afterward. The bigger Johnson took two scores of 39-38, while the best the heavily muscled Richardson could do was a card of 38-38. The referee was Boggs.

The ESPN show was promoted by Top Rank Inc., and the attendance was an announced 1,912. The judges were Frank Skilbred, Jim Aylesworth, Al Lombardi, and Frank Reichbach.
(9-19-89)

Jack Obermayer

INDIANA

►**INDIANAPOLIS**—A standing-room-only crowd at the Sherwood Club saw a very entertaining show, as two game and popular warriors were featured in an eight-round main event.

Craig Houk, 139½, Greensburg, and **Kevin Sedam**, 137, Indianapolis, went to war from the start. Sedam won the opening round with an all-out attack. Houk stayed cool and picked off most of the punches. In round two, Houk used a good jab and better boxing skills to gain the edge. He won each remaining round. Sedam receives credit for a big effort, but he just didn't have the skills to beat Houk. The decision was unanimous, with all three judges scoring the contest 79-73.

Tim Bryan, 159, New Palestine, TKO'd Randy Handshoe, 158, Kendallville, at 1:00 of the fourth round. Handshoe couldn't continue because of a cut.

After a two-year layoff, Terry Ray, 183, Terre Haute, fought a game Jerry Harris, 179, Elkhart. The popular Ray dominated and won a four-round decision.

Dino Stewart, 178, Muncie, made it a short evening when he dropped a short right on Ray Fenix's chin. Fenix, Akron, Ohio, was counted out at 1:20 of the opening round.

Gary Gamble, 145, Indianapolis, won a four-round decision over oft-beaten Randy Reedy, 140, Terre Haute. Reedy was a last-minute substitute.

Big Rad Brewer, 249, Frankfort, made quick work of portly Bob Montgomery, 218, Terre Haute, by TKOing him at 2:45 of the first round.

In a contest billed as an exhibition, former light heavyweight champion J.B. Williamson, 198, Indianapolis, and Dick Ryan, 221, Omaha, brawled and held back very little. The non-stop action had the crowd on its feet for all four of the rounds.

Undefeated middleweight Danny Morgan and Selma's Al Hughes also fought a three-round exhibition.

The card was promoted by Fred Berns; the matchmaker was Pete Susens; the referees were Bill Vaughn and George DeFabis; the judges were John Caldwell, Lance Rhodes, and Gary Merritt.
(9-26-89)

►**ELKHART**—The NABF's 15th-ranked lightweight, **Norman "Psycho" Bates**, 140, Elkhart, dropped **Rocky Vires**, 144, Oklahoma City, three times in the third round for an automatic stoppage at 2:06. Vires, a southpaw, stormed out at the opening bell with a two-fisted attack that Bates was ready for. Before registering the TKO, Psycho won the first two rounds with his quick hands. The bout was scheduled for 10 rounds.

In a five-round contest, Jerry Harris, 176, Elkhart, lost the first two rounds to Ray Fenix, 187, Akron, then pitched a shutout in the last three stanzas to win a unanimous decision. Harris' winning margin was 48-47.

Efren Brown, 147, Anderson, and Bobby Brown, 147, Memphis, fought a spirited contest for 10 rounds. There were several knockdowns. Efren won the unanimous decision by scores of 97-89, 98-92, and 96-89.

Andy Penelli, 208, South Bend, kayoed a rotund Hardy Martin, 253, Oklahoma City, at 1:13 of the fourth and final round.

The four-bout card at the Brookdale Center drew 400 fans. Fred Berns promoted, and Pete Susens made the matches. The referees were Sean Curtain and Pete Podgorski. The judges were Fred Jones, Don Leek, and Gary Merritt.
(9-21-89)

Gary L. Merritt

MICHIGAN

►**AUBURN HILLS**—When **Timmy Burgess**, 139¾, New York, eluded the oncoming fists of Kronks' **Stanley Longstreet**, 139, Detroit, he earned a split decison in their WBA Continental Americas junior welterweight title fight at The Palace. The unorthodox but aggressive Burgess is 16-4. Longstreet fell to 16-2.

In the co-feature, flashy Anthony Hembrick, 172, Detroit, outclassed the dogged Darryl Spain, 170, Bay City, and earned a TKO at 1:56 of round four. Hembrick is 6-0 (4), Spain 14-13.

The undercard featured undefeated James Toney, 157, Detroit, winning a unanimous decision in an action six from crowd-pleasing Lemark Davis, 156, Dayton, Ohio. Toney is 8-0, while Davis is 7-3.

Promising Augustus Destouche, 150, Detroit, fell to 3-2 when he couldn't answer the bell for round six after Ruben Torres, 150, Cleveland, had slammed him with punishing hooks to his left shoulder.

Phillipe Martin, 138, decisioned Chris Stewart, 135½. Both hail from Detroit.

Leeonzer Barber, 172, Detroit, earned a split decision over Danny Thomas, 169, Detroit. Barber is 3-1, Thomas 6-8.

The judges were Chip Acey, Rich Fisher, and Herm McKalpain. The referees were Sam Williams and Thomas F. Paruszkiewicz. The promoter was Ringside Productions. The matchmaker was Tommy Vaca.
(9-7-89)

Tom and Gary Paruszkiewicz
Ray Picchetti

NEW JERSEY

►**ATLANTIC CITY**—In the featured 10-rounders at Harrah's Marina Hotel and Casino, losers of late became winners at this gambling venue. **Tony Thornton**, 164, from nearby Glassboro, New Jersey, who was coming off two consecutive 12-round defeats, feasted on trialhorse **Hector Rosario**, 166¾, the Bronx, and posted a unanimous decision by scores of 98-91, from both Al DeVito and Tommy Kaczmarek, and 97-92, from Joe Pasquale.

Thornton, 22-3-1 (18), who is now under the tutelage of trainer Wesley Mouzon, put punches together rather well, but was still slow and predictable. Rosario only managed occasional punching success to the body, and fell to 14-13-1 (8). The referee was Arthur Mercante Sr.

"Rosario gave me some good work, the kind you can't get in the gym," Thornton said. "It doesn't bother me that I didn't knock this guy out. I went 10 rounds, and I feel great."

In the other 10-rounder, the winner had lost three straight decisions, while the loser had never gone the distance—until tonight. Bulldog-tough Luis Santana, 149¾, Hawthorne, California, survived a first-round bomb of a right hand to take a close unanimous verdict over Jorge Maysonet, 148¼, Puerto Rico, via New York City. The scores were 97-94 from Pasquale and Kaczmarek, and 96-95 from DeVito. *The Ring* tabbed it 95-95. The referee was Tony Perez.

It was a crowd-pleasing get-together that had the aggressive Santana keeping the spidery Maysonet always on guard. They fought hard all the way, with both breathing heavily at the final bell.

"I knew the guy had a good jaw," said an obviously disappointed Maysonet. "I hit him with some great shots, and he shook them off."

Santana, a winner for the first time since July 1988, put his sagging career at least partially back on track, and improves his log to 35-11-2 (28). Maysonet is 21-4 (21).

In a bizarre eight, Jake "The Snake" Rodriguez, 141, Brentwood, New York, came away the winner while laying flat on his back. Mike Brown, 146¼, Philadelphia, had floored him with a right uppercut in round four. Rodriguez, who had strong first and second rounds, began to fade quickly, but referee Mercante saved the day. Brown had been warned earlier for pushing his man off and then punching. This time, Mercante was just about to leap in to again warn Brown, but Brown simultaneously landed the flooring blow. Mercante turned to see Rodriguez on the canvas and in no condition to rise, so the referee disqualified Brown. Rodriguez was declared the winner at the 52-second mark.

It appeared too stern a punishment for the infraction, and, as of this writing, a protest by the Brown corner is being given serious consideration by the commission. It could well be changed to a no-contest, and justly so. (New York's Mercante had just been reinstated by New Jersey after taking the state to court over its residency rule, which states that to work New Jersey cards, a referee must live in the state.

Rodriguez was 9-0-1 (4), while Brown, better than his record would indicate, was 12-17-2 (6).

Peter Wabuda, 235¾, Philadelphia, took a six-round unanimous decision over fellow southpaw Wayne Bartley, 240, Philadelphia. Not much here, as the slow-moving and overly developed Wabuda simply walked through the 18 minutes against a rather overweight foe. Two scores were 59-54, and one was a shutout at 60-54. There were no knockdowns. The winner is 9-3 (7), with all three defeats coming via opening-session stoppages. Bartley falls to 3-1 (3), all against terrible competition.

Charles Brewer, 159¼, Philadelphia, went to 2-0, as he took an easy four- round decision over the passive Robert Edmonds, 161, Baltimore, 0-4-1.

Skinny William Jones, 145¼, Philadelphia, went to 3-0 (3), with a kayo at 42 seconds of the first round in a scheduled four. The shell-shocked loser was John Stewart, 142¾, Washington, DC, now 0-3. He was put down once, almost being punched

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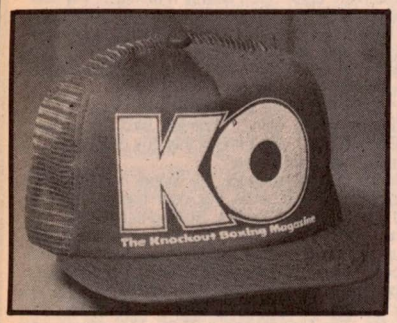

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This J. Russell Peltz promotion was televised by SportsChannel America.
(9-25-89)

Jack Obermayer

►**ATLANTIC CITY**—In a scheduled 12-round bout for the WBA Intercontinental welterweight championship at Trump Plaza, **Glenwood "The Real Beast" Brown**, 147, Plainfield, New Jersey, scored a TKO at 1:44 of round seven over a rather passive **Donovan Boucher**, 147, Toronto, Canada.

Brown, 26-1 (19), had little to fear in an opponent who stayed away, taking few, if any, chances.

After six rounds, Boucher was behind by four points. In the seventh, Brown saw an opening for a left hook and he capitalized on it, splaying Boucher across the ropes. Boucher beat the count, then Brown further beat him up on the opposite side of the ring, prompting referee Joe Cortez to stop the fight.

"I got my hands down a little too low," Boucher said later, "and I got caught."

Said Brown: "Early on, every time I tried to do something, he kept on moving and counterpunching. I felt the fight was even [until the knockout.]"

In other action, Mike Peak, 171, Louisville, defended his WBA-Americas light heavyweight title with a unanimous 12-round decision over previously unbeaten Greg Everett, 171, Newark, New Jersey, who now is 11-1 (10).

Everett, an employee at Trump Plaza, had his backers cheering as both fighters charged out and fired away. In round one, Everett struck Peak with a glancing right hand high on the head. Peak went down—face-first—but beat the count of referee Steve Smoger by two seconds.

After the knockdown, Peak countered, positioned himself, and jabbed his way to a win. He paced himself evenly and, by the end of round seven, was leading on two cards. Everett, who had never fought beyond eight rounds, looked tired and unsure, and he couldn't get off any effective punches.

Peak, 13-3-2 (2), earned the decision by scores of 114-113 from Jean Williams, 116-111 from Frank Cairo, and 117-112 from Phil Newman. *The Ring* had it 114-114.

Said Peak: "A lot of guys question my knockout power, but I train hard; I was ready."

Added Everett: "He knew how to control himself going the distance."

Daryll Tyson, 136½, Washington, D.C., 29-4 (14), filled in for the injured Greg Haugen and won a rather so-so unanimous 10-rounder from Richie Otero, 136½, Brooklyn. Otero, 11-9 (5), was at his heaviest. He plodded away and was hurt by Tyson at the end of round six after absorbing successive right hands. But Tyson hardly dominated.

The scoring: Williams and Cairo both saw it 97-93, while Newman had it 96-94. *The Ring* scored 98-92 for Tyson.

In an eight-rounder, Larry Barnes, 148, Mount Vernon, New York, made short work of Pedro Garcia with a right cross and a left hook. Barnes kayoed Garcia, 146½, Yonkers, New York, at 1:55 of round one. Barnes is 13-0 (7).

Harrison "Darth Vader" Pearson, 186, Camden, New Jersey, earned a unanimous six-round decision over Al "Bubble Gum" Sheriff, 188, Reading, Pennsylvania. Pearson took two scores of 58-56 and a third of 57-56.

In the opening four-rounder, Darin Allen, 166¼, Columbus, Ohio, took a unanimous verdict over Jesse Lanton, 168½, Yonkers, New York, by scores of 40-36, 40-36, and 39-37.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman and Pat Fleming
Television: Madison Square Garden Network
(9-28-89)

►**ATLANTIC CITY**—When **Calvin Grove** and **Ed Pollard** stepped in the ring, the only category in which they matched up evenly was weight. (Each fighter scaled 134½.) But Grove, Coatsville, Pennsylvania, the former IBF featherweight champion, was clearly the superior fighter, as he earned a unanimous 10-round decision.

Grove, 36-2 (both losses coming to current champion Jorge Paez), looked puffy as a lightweight. Pollard, an effective puncher when he lands, fell short most of the time as Grove's longer hands and quicker feet prevailed.

Afterward, Grove said he took the bout on short notice (a fill-in for the scrubbed Dennis Andries-Art Jimmerson light heavyweight bout) and didn't know the identity of his opponent until fight day.

"The main thing is the win now," Grove said. "I cannot afford to lose." Pollard said he had shed 14 pounds before the fight, and that the weight loss sapped his strength.

Judge Jean Williams scored 100-90 for Grove, while Rich Strange and Lynn Carter had it 98-92 and 97-93, respectively. *The Ring* scored 98-93 for Grove.

Ralph Ward, 161, Atlantic City, capitalized on his gangly awkwardness to edge Gerald McClellan, 160½, Detroit, over eight rounds. Although Ward was dropped in round two, he somehow swayed the judges to capture a 77-75 vote from Strange and 76-75 from Carter and Wiliams, respectively. *The Ring* had it 77-74 for Ward.

For McClellan it was his second straight loss in Atlantic City. He falls to 10-2 (10). Ward is 13-3 (2).

Quick-handed southpaw Sharmba Mitchell, 137, Washington, D.C., raised his record to 9-0 (4) as he decisioned Aristedes Acevedo, 135, the Bronx. The veteran was hurt in round one, and Mitchell breezed to a shutout (an 80-72 winner on all three cards). Acevedo is 16-9-3 (8).

Joe Summers, 163½, Salem, New Jersey, looked either ill-prepared or overmatched in his fight with James "Lights Out" Toney, 163, Ann Arbor, Michigan. Toney, 10-0 (7), dismantled the flabby Summers, working to the head and body and flooring Summers twice—with a left hook and then a right hand—before the fight was stopped at 2:14 of round two in a scheduled six- rounder. Summers fell to 8-4-1 (4).

Ricky Meyers, 141½, Port Reading, had little trouble with Jerry Massey, 141, Cincinnati, and won his scheduled six-rounder by TKO at 1:11 of round two. Meyers had Massey running backward from the start, and the loser took a standing eight-count at the end of round one. Myers is 6-0 (4). Massey fell to 3-6.

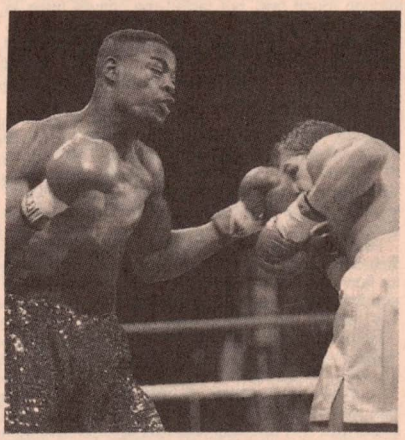
Promoter: Frank Gelb
Television: USA Network
(9-21-89)

Jack Obermayer

NEW YORK

►**NEW YORK CITY**—A predictably disorganized show, with the Madison Square Garden boxing department moving from the Felt Forum—closed for renovations—to the famed Beacon Theatre on Broadway.

In the main event, **Aaron "Superman" Davis**, 149, the Bronx, remained undefeated by scoring an uninspired unanimous 10-round verdict over Texan and former 140-pound champion **Gene Hatcher**, 148, Ft. Worth. Davis punched strongly to the body and pumped a points-scoring jab, but ringsiders were left with the impression that he could've offered much more.



Aaron Davis outpoints Gene Hatcher

"I just can't seem to get up," said Davis, 26-0 (15), who is seeking a title shot. "I just train to be training. It's like a gym fight. It's nothing."

"Nothing" was enough to convince Hatcher to retire. The 30-year-old veteran, who was cut under the right eye, lacked the spark and grit that marked his prime. He fell to 29-6 (21), and said, "I think that was it. I'll go to the moon, to Mars, and everywhere else, and *then* I'll come back."

All three scores were 8-2 in rounds. The referee was Duke Schroeder.

In a dreadful supporting 10-rounder, Renaldo "Mr." Snipes, 214, Yonkers, New York, outpointed veteran loser Melvin Epps, 194, Brooklyn. Snipes chased Epps, whom he had kayoed in five rounds in 1987. Snipes is now 35-7-1 (20), and remains rated by certain organizations. Epps is 13-17-1 (3).

Adam "G-Man" Garland, 163, Piscataway, New Jersey, took an eight-round decision over a faded Ricky Stackhouse, 160, Atlanta, by three scores of

6-2. Stackhouse ate dozens of Garland's rights, but remained erect. Garland, a three-time New Jersey Golden Gloves champion, is 12-0 (9). Stackhouse drops to 18-10-1 (10).

In the best matchup of the card, a pair of local and undefeated welterweights, Westbury, New York's Willie Wise, 147, and Brooklyn's Ronald McCall, 147½, fought to a lively majority draw. Scores were 3-3, 3-3, and 3-2-1 for Wise. *The Ring* thought McCall deserved the nod. Wise is 7-0-1 (2), McCall 3-0-1.

In a heavyweight six, Leland "Sugarman" Hardy, 197, New York City, TKO'd Elvin Evans, 210, Knoxville, at 1:54 of the third. He's 4-2-1 (3), while Evans falls to 5-3 (2).

Bantamweight Reuben Navarez, 119, Ft. Worth, scored a majority six-round decision over Brooklyn's Josh "Pee Wee" Lopez, 120. Navarez is 3-2-1 (2), Lopez 5-1.

Hot bantamweight prospect "Poison" Junior Jones, 117, Brooklyn, kayoed Charlie Montana, 119½, Pensacola, Florida, at 1:54 of the second. Jones is 4-0 (2), Montana 5-1.

Brooklyn's Segundo Mercado, 161, outpointed debuting Kermit Cain, 156½, Ft. Worth, in a six-round middleweight bout. Mercado is 5-0 (4).

Brooklyn's Jade Scott, 177, rose to 3-0 (3), with a third-round kayo of Tim Taylor, 173½, Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Taylor is 4-2.

The judges were Harold Lederman, Tony Castellano, and Dr. Marvin Goldberg, and the matchmakers were Bob Goodman and Pat Fleming. The bout was televised by the MSG Network.
(9-14-89)

Steve Farhood

►**BROOKLYN—Riddick Bowe**, 227, the Olympic silver medalist in the super-heavyweight class, performed for free in front of his hometown fans at Gleason's Arena and dispatched Tony Hayes, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, with a knockout at 1:21 of round one in a scheduled six-round bout.

Bowe slammed Hayes with a single right to the body. And, while it appeared he could have beaten the count, Hayes seemed to quit. Referee Harry Smith counted him out. Hayes has been suspended indefinitely after suffering his sixth consecutive stoppage.

In other action, Shawn Wilkins, 119, Paterson, New Jersey, earned a unanimous decision over Gordon Trotman, 119, Georgetown, Guyana. Trotman suffered cuts and has been suspended until his lacerations heal.

In the professional debut of two fighters, Anthony Green, 248, captured a four-round unaimous decision over John Jackson, 210.

Michael Hooper, 153½, Irvington, New Jersey, took his four-rounder unanimously, decisioning Aureliano Sosa, 149½, Brooklyn.

In a final four-round bout, Juan Rivera, 136½, Dominican Republic via Brooklyn, TKO'd Glenn Irizarry, 140, North Bay Shore, New York, at 55 seconds of round two. Rivera is 3-0.

Promoter: Gleason's Arena, using the license of Charles Rap. Matchmaker: Harold Weston. Judges: George DeGabriel, Charlie Norkus, and Coley Wallace.
(9-15-89)

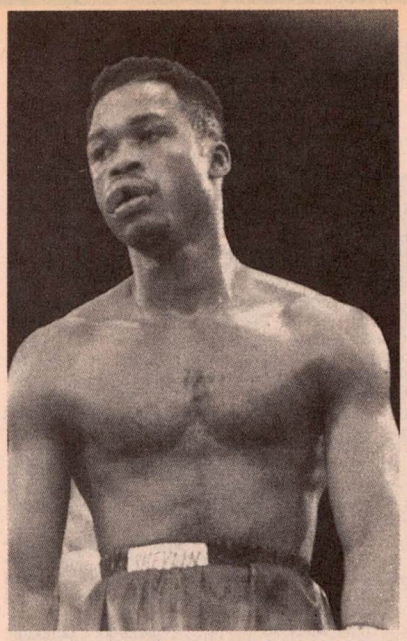
Jack Obermayer

PENNSYLVANIA

►**PHILADELPHIA**—The ESPN tour decided to soak up some of the atmosphere at the legendary Blue Horizon, but lost a good bit of what they'd come for when local attraction Vinny Burgese called in sick. Vinny's conqueror, **John Rafuse**, was quickly conscripted against **Owen McGeachy**, and the half- full house was still treated to a good show. As in almost every one of his fights, McGeachy, 141, Brooklyn, snatched victory from the claws of defeat, as he earned a hard-fought and fully deserved split decision over Rafuse, 141, Malden, Massachusetts.

McGeachy gets staggered quite often, and this fight was no exception. After a bitter see-saw battle through the early rounds, Rafuse finally found what he'd been looking for in the fifth, and drilled McGeachy with a battering-ram right. Though in serious straits, the dogged McGeachy fought his way to safety, and that seemed to take most of the fight out of Rafuse. Rafuse sleep-walked through the second half, only waking too late in the 10th. In no way did he deserve Charlie Sgrillo's 45-44 vote, with Adelaide Tyndale and Lynne Carter rescuing the verdict at 47-43 and 47-44, respectively, for McGeachy. Rudy Battle refereed.

Rafuse blamed his loss on the last-minute call, but added, "I still had him in the fifth. In Massachusetts, or anywhere else, they'd have stopped the fight."



Junior welter Owen McGeachy

The erratic scoring prevalent in this state marred the co-feature 10-rounder, as Kevin Pompey, 148, Troy, New York, was awarded an unpopular split decision over J.J. Watters, 147, Austin, Texas. It was an excellent contest. This time, Sgrillo, the culprit in the previous encounter, was on target at 48-43 for Watters. But Carter scored 46-44, and Tyndale scored a whopping 48-42, both for Pompey. In truth, almost every round was close and open to interpretation. The bout was a fast-paced, well-disciplined, and stylish boxing match. Seldom seen and less appreciated. Pompey enjoyed the advantage of forcing the fight, and at least *appeared* more vigorous in his attack. But Watters played checkers like a master, finishing off nearly every exchange, keeping the jab working when nothing else was, and deftly avoiding blows by such close shaves that even the computer boys who count the blows may have been fooled. The Texan finished stronger and had Pompey rattled with uppercuts in a crackling 10th. But Watters' relaxed style may have been Pompey's best weapon. The referee was Tommy Reid.

Touted southpaw Otis Grant, 165, Montreal, blew out comebacking Art "Moose" McCloud, 165, Philadelphia, at 2:22 of the first, scheduled for six. Grant delivered on his promise, dropping the dangerous McCloud during a vicious inside exchange, then blasting him onto the press tables, where Battle immediately ruled a TKO.

In a contest of lefties, Ronnie Cooley, 139, West Oak Lane, TKO'd Anthony Perez, 118, Bedford-Stuyvesant, New York, on a cut eye after four rounds of a scheduled six. Perez was being thoroughly dominated.

Willie Rivera, 143, Philadelphia, buried Aaron Evans, 141½, Washington, D.C., with a right to score a TKO at 36 seconds of the second round in a scheduled four.

In a wild shootout, Charles Brewer, 159, Philadelphia, came off the floor in the first round to wear out and stop a protesting Roy Reid, 158, Brentwood, New York, at 1:26 of the third. It was scheduled for four.

Southpaw John Jones, 139¾, Atlantic City, beat Ray Sutton, 144, Philadelphia, by unanimous decision in a gruelling four-rounder.

The Top Rank-promoted show was televised by ESPN, and the attendance was estimated at 600. The matchmakers were Harold Moore, Ron Katz, and Teddy Brenner.
(10-3-89)

►**PHILADELPHIA**—Having fallen from his horse, **Tyrone Mitchell Frazier** found it was time to climb back on. The main event between Frazier and **James Barham** was enough to attract a packed Blue Horizon, including such celebs as Melba Moore and "Tiny Tim." After being jobbed on a horrendous decision in his last fight, against Vincent Boulware, the house favorite admitted to a serious loss of purpose. Blowing up to more than 200 pounds, Frazier confessed, "I had no more motivation. Damn! If they could take it away from me like that . . ."

It was almost too late before Frazier got going in a return bout with January victim Barham. "He motivated me at the weigh-in," Frazier revealed, "because he kept running his mouth." Frazier, 170, North Philadelphia, was sluggish at the start, which spurred the gritty Barham, 170, South Philadelphia, into an incredibly savage slugging match. It was worthy of the local rivalries that are routinely settled here.

But the furious pace favored the stronger Frazier. After battling on even terms, Barham went into reverse in the seventh. Frazier tracked him down in the eighth, then administered a round-long beating in the ninth, culminating in a right uppercut and left hook that dumped Barham at the bell. Referee John Carroll immediately stopped the fight, but the sanguine fans, noting that the exhausted victor could barely stand in his corner, sensed the issue wasn't fully decided, and wanted a 10th round.

Promising Ronnie Hammonds, 147, North Philadelphia, kayoed Wali Abdullah, 146, West Philadelphia, at 1:19 of the second round of a predictable four. The referee was Carroll.

Bernal Long, 165, West Philadelphia, kayoed an outclassed Mike Taylor, 165, South Philadelphia, at 38 seconds of the second round in a wild shootout. It was scheduled for four rounds. The referee was George Hill.

Louis Pagan, 147, Troy, New York, trapped likeable Eddie Dennis, 147, Southwest Philadelphia, on the ropes and scored a stoppage at 1:42 of the first round; scheduled for four rounds. The referee was Carroll.

Bennie Amparo, 126, North Philadelphia, turned in a nifty boxing performance and took a unanimous four-round decision over Ricky Scott, 126, North Philadelphia. The referee was Carroll.

Jessie Boston, 190, North Philadelphia, won a dull and unanimous four-round verdict over hesitant Lee Campbell, 190, Camden, New Jersey. The referee was Hill.

Lefty Joe Pemberton, 178, South Philadelphia, dropped and TKO'd a worn out Lewis Frazier, 177, North Philadelphia, at 2:33 of round three. It was scheduled for four. The referee was Hill.

Ernest Kennedy, 157, North Philadelphia, easily disposed of Lawrence "Homicide" Jones (appearing as "Terry Jackson"), 157, North Philadelphia, with a knockdown and TKO at 1:04 of the first round; scheduled for four. The referee was Hill.

The promoters were Tom and Joe Frazier, and the matchmaker was Harold Moore. The attendance was an estimated 1,200.

The judges were Paul Battle, Guy Richardson, and Manny Altman. The timekeeper was J.P. Mina, and the ring announcer was Frank Talent.
(9-25-89)

►**PHILADELPHIA**—It wasn't pretty but **Rodney Moore** captured a unanimous 10-round decision over former contender **Miguel "El Zorro" Santana** in a hard-fought, punishing struggle at the Blue Horizon. Santana, 139, Puerto Rico, started out as if he were going to outclass Moore. Santana charged out smartly, slipping Moore's long jab, and worked him over with short hooks on the inside. But he couldn't maintain a sharp edge and eventually slowed down. Moore, 142, N. Philadelphia, began to bore in with sweeping punches.

Moore thrashed away mercilessly in round five, practically chasing Santana out of the ring. Santana regained some of his early control until the ninth, but Moore then landed a sweeping hook and a right cross. He finally brought Santana to his knees with a knifing left hook to the ribs. A wicked volley again dropped Santana later that round, and he looked as if he were about to quit. But the oppressive heat in the Blue Horizon had sapped much of Moore's strength, and he couldn't finish off his opponent. The judges nevertheless scored it 48-44, 48-41, and 47-42 for Moore. The referee was Frank Cappuccino.

In the co-feature bout, Jorge Maysonet, 154, the Bronx, needed a confidence-builder and got it from Donald Gwinn, 149, Ashland, Kentucky. Gwinn winged his punches from the start and backed up Maysonet. But Maysonet rallied and dug a vicious left hook to Gwinn's midsection, sending him to the canvas in round one.

Maysonet fired two more left hooks and earned a TKO at 2:10 of round one. The referee was Ron Aurit.

Promising Andre Haddock, 158, N. Philadelphia, earned a unanimous decision over Brinati Maquilon, 159, Queens, New York. A surprise right in the third hurt Haddock, and he held on until he could recover. Then he stormed back and thudded horrific blows off Maquilon's head for the rest of the fight.

Ed Mack, 180, West Oak Lane, dropped Dawud Shaw, 179, Chester, in round two, then struggled to a unanimous win in a sloppy four-rounder.

Tony Breen, 127, W. Philadelphia, dropped Martin Brokenbough, 127, W. Philadelphia, three times with left hooks for a third-round TKO at 1:49.

Charles Brewer, 157, N. Philadelphia, kayoed Jerome Johnson, 157, Balto, at 2:10 of round three.

Wayne Bartley, 233, W. Philadelphia, kayoed Tony Patterson, 236, N. Philadelphia, at 0:31 of round one.

The judges were Joe O'Neil, Carol Polis, and Manny Altman. The matchmaker was J. Russell Peltz. USA Network televised the bouts.
(8-3-89)

►**PHILADELPHIA**—Although **Rodney Moore** gained a rather easy unanimous decision over **Willie Taylor** in a routine 10-rounder, the implications of the fight rattled Philly boxing to its foundations. Moore was to have led the long-anticipated return of major local cards against another Taylor—no less than Meldrick himself.

The latter wanted a tuneup for his blockbuster unification bout with Julio Cesar Chavez. And though the Taylor-Moore bout would officially be a "non-title" fight, local fans don't need anyone to tell them what a real title match is. Moore verses Meldrick figured to be the kind of Philly fight that would produce more action than what passes for world championships on national television. First, though, Moore needed a tuneup for the tuneup. But, in the end, he got tuned out.

Though no bum, Taylor, 140¾, Falls Church, West Virginia, fought so delicately that cynics wondered if he wasn't being a nice guy about it all. He abandoned his usual hell-bent style and went with a herky-jerky southpaw stance that was ineffective against Moore's superior reach. Moore, 141¼, North Philadelphia, enjoyed a big lead until Taylor sliced open his left eye.

"Until that happened," Moore said, "I was kind of sleeping in there. I guess my mind was too much on that Meldrick Taylor stuff."

Though he won by scores of 47-43 (Adalaide Tyndale), 48-43 (Guy Richardson), and 46-44 (Paul Harris), Moore's fizzling finish to Taylor's wild surge drew the ire of local fans. More importantly, it marked the end of his shot at Meldrick Taylor for the local championship.

"I'm not going to let Meldrick Taylor or anyone else hit me on this eye before it's had time to heal properly," Moore said.

In a sorry illustration of the cheapness of modern titles, not one, but two former holders appeared on the undercard.

Junior middle Buster Drayton

Buster Drayton, 156, South Philadelphia, suffered a shocker at the hands of upstart Brinatti Maquillon, 159, Queens, New York. Maquillon was holding off the former IBF junior middleweight titlist in rugged infighting, but his right eye was closing badly. After seven rounds, it was a one-point fight, with Harris favoring Maquillon, 32-31, and Tyndale and Richardson scoring for Drayton, 32-31 and 33-32, respectively.

In the eighth, however, Maquillon trapped Drayton on the ropes, stunning him with a left hook, and then clubbing him down with a succession of rights. Drayton got up, but had his head jarred by a right, prompting referee Ron Aurit to halt the scheduled 10-round bout at 2:55 of round eight.

Said Drayton: "I felt comfortable and in control all the way until he slipped in the big punch and caught me. Hey, I've got no excuses. It happens."

Former IBF lightweight king Charlie "Choo Choo" Brown, 144, North Philadelphia, was TKO'd by Joe Alexander, 140½, West Philadelphia, when Brown's corner tossed in the towel at 2:30 of round four; scheduled for eight.

Ed Mack, 184, West Oak Lane, TKO'd George Wilson, 185, Wilmington, Delaware, at 2:16 of the second of a scheduled six-rounder. Wilson was down in the first.

Ban Say-Say, 151, North Philadelphia, won a unanimous decision over Kilpatrick Mitchell, 151, Trenton, in an earnest, but ragged, four- rounder.

Joe Clark, 171½—no, not Joe Clark, the school principal with the baseball bat—blasted Joe Pemberton, 175, South Philadelphia, to the canvas and scored a TKO at 1:30 of an explosive first round; scheduled for four rounds.

Tommy Pyfer, 171, Clifton Heights, dropped a stiff named Willie Benson, 172, North Philadelphia, for an alleged kayo at 30 seconds of round one; scheduled for four.

The promoter was Joe Hand; the matchmaker was J. Russell Peltz; the timekeeper was Tony Stenza, and the ring announcer was Hank Kropinski. The bouts were televised by the USA Network. The attendance was 534.
(10-5-89)

J.R. Jowett

►**MONROEVILLE**—Switch-hitting **Dan Mitchell**, 167, Pittsburgh, counterpunched his way to a unanimous eight-round decision over **Robert Curry**, 164, Peckley, West Virginia, by scores of 38-34, 38-35, and 37-35.

Youngstown's Lenzi Morgan, 171, scored a one-punch knockout over Ricardo Bryant, 170, Pittsburgh, who was counted out at 1:05 of the third round of a scheduled six-rounder. Morgan nailed Bryant with a devastating right uppercut.

Tom Alexander, 147, Pittsburgh, outfought George Taylor, 148, Cleveland, for a unanimous six-round decision. The scores were 29-25, 28-26, and 28-26.

In a grueling six-rounder, Darren Dolby, 146, Pittsburgh, decisioned "Gutsy" Mike Hanks, 146, Cleveland. Hanks took an eight-count early on, but charged back and threatened Dolby in the end. But Dolby edged him in the scoring, 29-24, 28-25, and 28-25.

Virgil McClendon, 143, Columbus, outboxed Vercell Curry, 143, Peckley, West Virginia, for a unanimous four-round decision. McClendon's hand speed enabled him to catch Curry with blistering combinations. He won by three scores of 20-16.

Jeffrey Graffis, 138, Pittsburgh, earned a four-round split decision over Clyde Moore, 138, Cleveland. Two judges scored 19-17 for Graffis, while Moore received a score of 19-17.

Duncan Plowden, 162, Pittsburgh, banged out a majority four-round decision over Terrel Harris, 158, Pittsburgh, who was making his professional debut. The scores were 20-19, 19-17, and 18-18.

The promoter was Frank Chiodo. The matchmaker was P.K. Pecaro. The referees were Andy DePaul and Paddy Grimes. The attendance was an esitmated 900.
(9-20-89)

Eric Gliebe

TENNESSEE

►**MEMPHIS—Michael Greer**, 197, Memphis, stopped **Kevin Poindexter**, 193, Nashville, in a scheduled 10-round bout. Both fighters fired blow after blow during the first three rounds. Few, if any, punches landed. In round four, Greer connected with several combinations to the head and body of Poindexter. He managed to drop Poindexter for an eight-count late in that round. Greer bullied his foe through round five, and finally kayoed him at 1:18 of the fifth.

Knox Brown, 166, Memphis, scored a fourth-round knockout over Marcellus Jackson, 160, at the 1:04 mark in a scheduled six-rounder.

Ken Louis, 150, Greenville, Mississippi, stopped Tyrone Tyson, 146, Greenville, at 1:48 of the third round of a scheduled four-rounder.

In a scheduled four-round junior welterweight fight, Burt McDuffie, 148, Memphis, registered a third-round TKO over Simmie Black, 142, at 1:37 of round one.

Robert Dixon, 144, Memphis, stopped Billy Outley, 137, Nashville, at 1:01 of round four in a scheduled four-round bout.

Ken Hulsey, 165, Lynchburg, earned a four-round unanimous decision over Gentry Cates, 168, Nashville.

Promoter: Tom Harmon/Mid-South Boxing, Inc.; Matchmaker: Red Fortner; Ring announcer: Sonny Hanks; Judges: Gilbert Beam, Don Thompson, James Perkins, Haywood Watts, Alex McCollum, and Mike Belmont; Referee: Sam Garland; Timekeeper: Rod Cardone; Ringside Physician: Dr. Jeff Hoover; Attendance: 500.
(10-3-89)

Michael Glenn

WISCONSIN

►**KENDALL—Tom Lins**, 190, Spring Green, 8-2, used quick hands to stop **Tom Byars**, 176, La-Crosse, in round one of their respective pro debuts.

In another pro debut, Tom DeYoung, 185, Madison, looked sharp in stopping inept Jim Wisniewski, 181, Pardeeville, in three rounds. Wisniewski is 1-6.

Eric Kortbein, 158, Wilton, 1-0, stopped Frank Sweet, 148, Elroy, in round one. Sweet is 0-1.

Top local prospect Jim Pearsall, 157, Kendall, outpointed Scott McNeil, 160, Marshall, over four rounds.

Randy Reid, 176, Madison, who has made the transition from kick-boxing, decisioned Todd McComber, 189, Madison, over four rounds.

Randy Beck, 151, Manitowac, 1-0, stopped Larry Droster, 152, Stoughton, in two rounds.

The promoter was Rugby Ltd. The attendance was 700.
(9-2-89)

George Blair

MEXICO

►**JUAREZ—Ramon Flores**, Juarez, kayoed **Martin "Birrias" Galvan**, Torreon, at 1:19 of the fourth round in a lightweight bout. Flores was dropped in the second round but bounced back to put Galvan down with a left-right combination in the same round. Galvan was saved by the bell, but he wasn't as lucky two rounds later, when a combination to the head and body dropped him for the count.

Pedro "Veneno" de la Cruz, Juarez, kayoed Daniel "Indio" Murillo, Chihuahua, at 1:23 of the second round to retain the Chihuahua State welterweight title. It was de la Cruz' first defense. Murillo was on the canvas for five minutes after being kayoed. He subsequently announced his retirement.

Alberto Zepeda, Juarez, kayoed Jaime Padilla, Juarez, at 2:39 of the second round; bantamweights.

Rosendo Alvarado, Juarez, scored a six-round unanimous decision over Kaliman Perez, Juarez, bantamweights.

Jose Ines Alvarado, Juarez, scored a kayo at 2:36 of the fourth round over Ruben Moreno, Juarez, junior lightweights.

The promoter was Valenzuela Promotions. The referees were Juanito Lazcano and Javier Caballero. The crowd was an estimated 400.
(9-15-89)

►**LAZARO CARDENAS—Valente Flores** scored a unanimous 10-round decision over **Francisco "Buzo" Gonzalez** in a scheduled 10-round junior bantamweight bout.

Javier Leon, only 17 years old and now 30-0, kayoed Octavio "Sugar" Santos, in the third round; featherweights.

Modesto Camacho TKO'd Raymundo Arce; featherweights.
(9-15-89)

►**FRESNILLO—Arturo "Chino" Lopez** scored a second-round stoppage of **Marcel Vargas Jr.** in a scheduled 10-round junior welterweight bout.

Victor "Panterita" Alanis kayoed Rocky Medina in the sixth round; junior bantamweights.

Antonio Hernandez decisioned Jose Angel Cazares; bantamweights.
(9-16-89)

►**TAPACHULA—Al Robinson** registered a third-round kayo of former Mexican welterweight king **Sergio Arreola** in a junior middleweight main event. Arreola, badly out of shape, was fined by the state commission for failing to present proper documentation before the bout.
(9-17-89)

►**TIJUANA—Alberto "Hungaro" Martinez** scored a sixth-round TKO of **Manuel Armenta** in a junior featherweight bout scheduled for 10 rounds. Martinez, the former Mexican bantamweight king, scored a knockdown in the third. Armenta finished the bout with cuts over both eyes.

Juan Carlos "Griego" Salazar stopped Marco Antonio Ramirez in the 10th round; junior featherweights.

Rafael "Gato" Morfin unanimously decisioned Martin Bobadilla over 10 rounds; junior featherweights.

Tommy Valdez kayoed Alejandro Valenzuela in round four; junior featherweights.
(9-18-89)

►**MEXICO CITY—Felipe Castillo** stopped **Raul Sanchez** in round two with a tremendous left to the body; bantamweights.

Patricio Cortez scored a second-round stoppage of Miguel Echegaray; featherweights.

Federico Lara scored a four-round decision over Javier Chavez; flyweights.

Vincente Hernandez decisioned Samuel Juarez over four rounds; featherweights.

Jose Luis Mendoza drew over four rounds with Fernando Juarez; lightweights.

Luis Lora decisioned Alejandro Sanchez over four rounds; flyweights.

Eduardo Manzano decisioned Ricardo Briones over four rounds; mini flyweights.

Marcos Hernandez decisioned Apolonio Mayo over four rounds; bantamweights.
(9-20-89)

►**ACAPULCO—Fidel Avendano** scored a fourth-round knockdown en route to winning a 10-round decision over **Javier Sanchez**; lightweights.

Silvestre Mollado scored a 10-round decision over Herminio Ramirez; flyweights.

Miguel Angel Corona decisioned Alfredo Crucillo over six rounds; mini flyweights.

Valerio Ojeda stopped Eladio Navarette in the second round; flyweights.

Alejandro Herrera stopped Rolando Garcia in one round; welterweights.
(9-22-89)

►**MEXICO CITY—Victor Lozoya**, 8-0 (8), scored a TKO at 2:52 of round one against **Sergio Hernandez** in a junior middleweight main event scheduled for 10 rounds. Lozoya floored Hernandez twice with right hands.

Armando Marin TKO'd Salvador Sara in the fourth round; featherweights.

Jose de Jesus Garcia TKO'd Gregorio Madrid at 28 seconds of the first round; junior featherweights. de Jesus Garcia, a 1988 Olympian, is 7-0 (5).

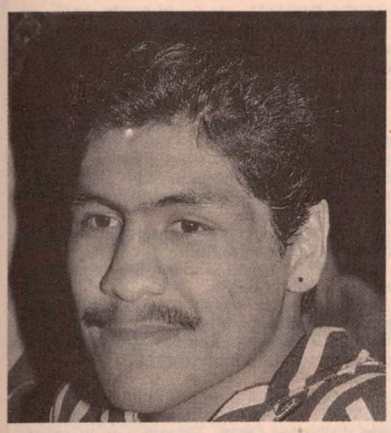
Carlos Gonzalez TKO'd Marco Antonio Lopez at the start of the second round; lightweights. Lopez was down twice in the first round.

Enrique Jupiter scored a second-round TKO over Martin Alvarez; flyweights.
(9-23-89)

►**MERIDA—Roger Arevalo** stopped **Abraham Martinez** at 2:52 of round six in a lightweight main event scheduled for 10 rounds. Arevalo, formerly the Mexican 130-pound titlist, returned after a year-long layoff during which he fought alcoholism. A right to the body dropped Martinez, who couldn't rise.

Miguel Tepanecatl stopped Luis Ruiz Lizarraga at 2:59 of round seven; bantamweights. The winner was saved by the bell ending round six, but he rebounded with a short left and a flurry in the seventh that prompted the stoppage.

Al Gallegos decisioned Clemente Flores ovcer 10 rounds; junior bantamweights.
(9-23-89)



Powerpuncher Lupe Aquino

►**TIJUANA**—In a big-name middleweight bout, former world junior middleweight champion **Lupe Aquino** stopped former world welterweight champion **Pipino Cuevas** at 54 seconds of the second round. Cuevas fell twice in the second, both times courtesy of right hands. He was on the canvas for about two minutes after the second knockdown. Cuevas announced his retirement once and for all (he says) a couple of days later.

Akeem Anifowoshe, a United States-based bantamweight from Nigeria, stopped Venezuela's Santiago Caballero in round seven. Caballero was cut on his cheek and eyebrow.

Alejandro Armenta stopped Pablo Ramos in

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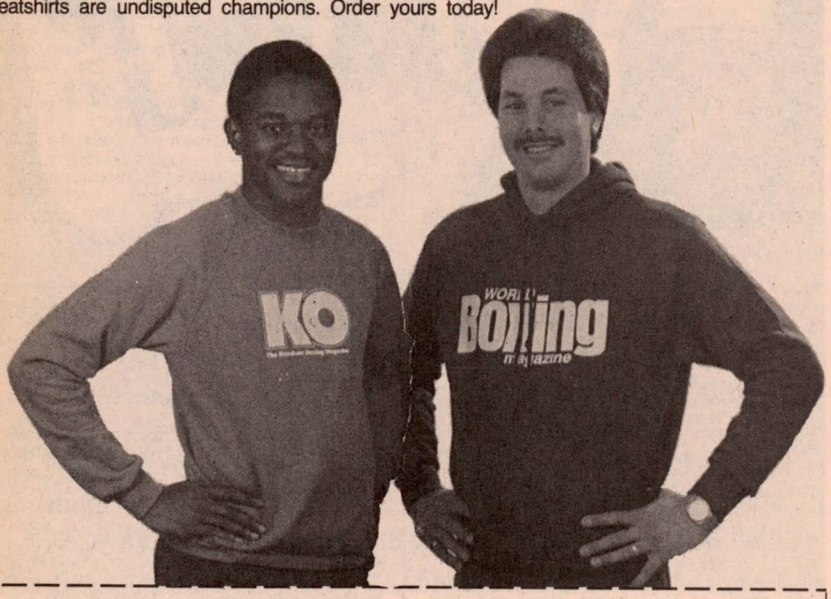

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round three; featherweights.
(9-25-89)

►**REYNOSA—Raymundo "Battling" Torres Jr.** retained the Mexican junior middleweight title with a unanimous 12-round verdict over **Mario Olmedo**. A crowd of 2,000 watched Torres' first defense. The champion dominated with left hands and cut the number-one contender on the left eyebrow in the fourth and the right eyebrow in the 12th.

Humberto "Gitano" Rodriguez scored a sixth-round stoppage of Thomas "Negro" Garcia; junior welterweights. Rodriguez, a 1988 Olympian, remains unbeaten.

Jorge Loya stopped Manuel Avila in round one; featherweights.

Romualdo Gonzalez halted Roberto Campos in round six; lightweights.
(9-29-89)

►**ACAPULCO—Jose Luis Bueno** TKO's **Jaime "Cuervo" Rojas** in the first round of a junior bantamweight main event scheduled for 10 rounds. The fight was stopped after Rojas was dropped by a left uppercut-right hook combination.

Max Garcia scored a third-round stoppage of Julio Avendano; junior featherweights. The fans booed the stoppage, believing Garcia had intentionally butted the loser.

Anastasio Sanchez decisioned Roman Velasco over eight rounds; flyweights.

Hector Gutierrez stopped Alicio Sanchez in round two; flyweights.

Bernardo Dule halted Richard Gallegos in round three; bantamweights.
(9-29-89)

►**LA PAZ—Mauricio Villegas** retained the Mexican heavyweight crown with a seventh-round kayo of **Francisco Beltran** in a scheduled 12-rounder. Villegas, making his first defense in 1989, capitalized on a huge weight advantage. Beltran crashed twice in round six and, after absorbing a right to the chin, fell for the count in round seven. A crowd of 4,000 watched Villegas raise his record to a reported 21-4.

Jose "Latigo" Flores and Jose Luis "Pumita" Rodriguez fought to a two-round technical draw; featherweights.
(9-29-89)

►**HERMOSILLO—Genaro Leon**, the WBO welterweight champion, enjoyed a non-title tuneup, halting **Alberto Alcaraz** in the fourth round of a scheduled 10-rounder. Alcaraz is the former Mexican 140-pound titlist.

Luciano Solis and Benny Medina fought to a sixth-round technical draw in a scheduled 10-round junior lightweight bout. Solis was cut by an unintentional butt.
(9-29-89)

►**SANTA ROSALIA—Javier Pichardo**, rated sixth in Mexico at 130 pounds, stopped **Chicho Valenzuela** in round nine of a scheduled 10-rounder.
(9-29-89)

►**MEXICO CITY—Eduardo Flores** stopped **Martin Martinez** at 1:50 of round two in a scheduled 10-round middleweight main event. Flores is 15-1 (10). Martinez is 13-4 (12). Flores, only 21, dropped Martinez twice in round two, the second time with a left-right for the 10-count.

Raul Feregrino stopped Gerardo Sanchez in the seventh round; lightweights.

Martin Perez halted Justino Ramirez in round two; junior featherweights.

Juan Hernandez scored a second-round stoppage of Miguel Angel Reyes; lightweights.

Ricardo Medina decisioned Oscar Arciniega over four rounds; junior bantamweights.
(9-30-89)

►**MEXICO CITY—Raymundo "Tanquecito" Rojas** decisioned **Carlos Zamora** over six rounds; bantamweights. Rojas is 4-1.
(10-4-89)

►**ACAPULCO—Clemente "Camichin" Mendoza** outpointed **Beto Loya** over 10 rounds in a lightweight affair. Loya was down in round one.

Marco Antonio Ludwig stopped Mauricio Maldonado in round eight; featherweights.

Marco Antonio Zuniga destroyed Juan Castanon in round one; flyweights.

Jose Luis Hernandez halted Juan Cisneros in round one; welterweights.
(10-6-89)

►**MEXICALI—Javier "Changuita" Marquez** won the vacant Mexican featherweight title for a record

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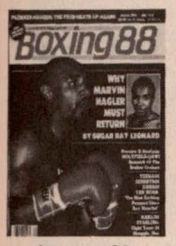

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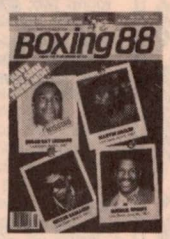

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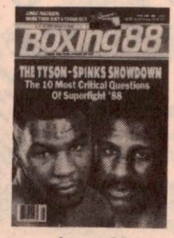

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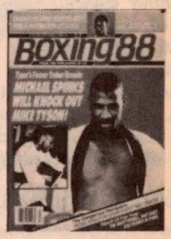

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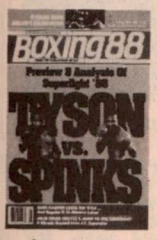

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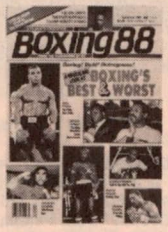

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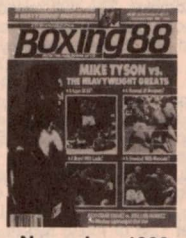

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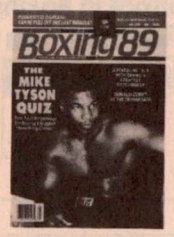

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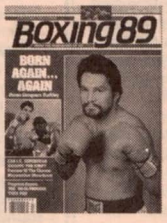

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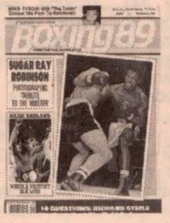

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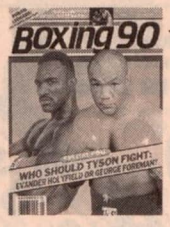

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third time by outpointing **Mario Alberto Rodriguez** over 12 rounds. The scores were 118-116, 119-116, and 118-112 for the hometown fighter. Marquez was floored by a right in round six, but he rebounded with an excellent defense and a hit-and-run attack. Marquez was also cut in round eight, but the cut was never a factor. The title became available when Eduardo "Fili" Montoya, who defeated Marquez earlier this year, vacated for what turned out to be an try at WBA 126-pound champion Antonio Esparragoza.

Luoe Aquino stopped American Milford Kemp at 56 seconds of round three; middleweights.

Raul Franco needed only 2:02 of the first round to halt Rodolfo "Colorina" Ortega; featherweights.

"Famosito" Gomez stopped Jesus Caldera in round two; flyweights. Gomez is now 10-0.

Mario Morales stopped Gilberto Duenas in round one; welterweights.

Eduardo Perez halted Antonio Medina in round one; featherweights.
(10-6-89)

Bruce Williams

TRINIDAD

►**PORT OF SPAIN**—It was Excedrin headache number 39 for **Tyrone Downes**, 130, Barbados, and **Lyndon Profit**, 130, Guyana, after they accidentally butted heads in the main event at the Jean Pierre Sports Complex. The butt raised a lump the size of a ping pong ball on Profit's head, forcing an ending in round two. Downes won by TKO.

John Brown, 159½, Trinidad, TKO'd Terrence Bannister, 159, Trinidad, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10-round bout.

Holken Brock, 233½, Sweden, kayoed Ed Williams, 286, United States, at 2:53 of round one.

Learie Bruce, 130, Trinidad, TKO'd Lester Harry, 129, Trinidad, at 1:35 of round two of a scheduled six-rounder.

Clint Ceballo, 141, Trinidad, and Fitzherbert Dash, 146, settled for a draw after four rounds. Their bout featured plenty of action and a fighter—Dash—who'd been out of the ring for eight years.

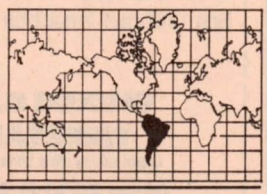
David McMillan, 185¼, Trinidad, won a four-round split decision over Curtis Miller, 181, Barbados.

Ulric Johnson, 128½, Trinidad, decisioned Wendell Francis, 133¼, Trinidad, over four rounds.

The promoter was Arnim Smith; the ring announcer was E. Robertson; the referees were Tommy Thomas, Hollis Willson, Melchior Taylor, and George St. Jude.

The attendance was 700, with gross receipts totalling approximately $10,000.
(7-4-89)

George Beckles



SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA

►**SINCELEJO**—After three bouts of a five-bout card, rain caused the postponement of part of the show at the San Vicente Coliseum.

In the first fight, Jimmy Garcia decisioned Jaime Castellon in an eight- round featherweight bout. In a super flyweight matchup, Carlos Mercado outpointed Genaro Manjarres over 10 rounds. And Felix Naranjo TKO'd Victor Molino in the second round of their miniflyweight fight.

Then the rains came.

However, the final two bouts of the card were completed the following day. Mini flyweight **Francisco Tejedor** kayoed **Elvis Ibarra** in two rounds. And Juvenal Berrio outpointed Manuel Ariza in an eight-round flyweight contest.
(7-22/23-89)

►**MONTERIA**—At the Miguel "Happy" Lora Coliseum, **Horacio "Quibdo" Perez** knocked out **Jesus Morelos** in round two of a scheduled 10-round junior middleweight fight.

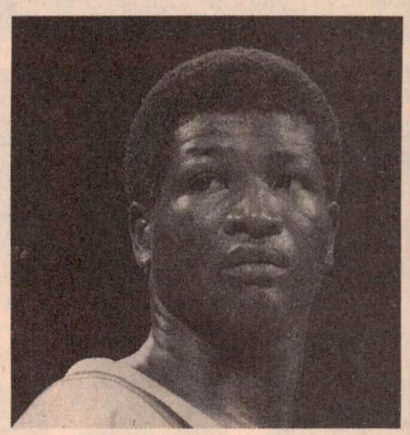
Junior middleweight Donaldo Ortega kayoed Eberto Mendoza in three rounds. Mendoza was down in the first and the third.

Guillermo Salcedo stopped Tobias Caraballo in the fifth round of their bantamweight clash.

In mini flyweight action, unbeaten Asdrubal Velasquez kayoed Arnold Velasquez in round one.

In featherweight action, Alberto Zuluaga knocked out Pablo Padilla in the third round. Padilla was a substitute for Alejandro Ricardo.

Pedro Salgado defeated Ismael de Avila when de Avila was disqualified in their flyweight fight.
(8-4-89)



Colombia's Rafael Pineda

►**BARRANQUILLA**—After being stopped by Mark Breland in a WBA welterweight title fight, local favorite **Rafael Pineda** returned to action at the Salon Jumbo Country Club. Pineda, 142, halted **Libardo Barrios**, 143, in the second round.

Unbeaten bantamweight Atenor Solar earned a 10-round split decision over Panama's Edgar "Bambi" Monserrat.

Rafael Zuniga, 127, kayoed veteran Daniel Blanco, 125, San Onofre, Sucre, in the second round.

Simon Morales, 117, stopped Luis Berrio, 119, in four rounds.

Venezuela's Abraha..ı Torres, 118, decisioned Ivan Iglesias, 116, over six rounds.

Julio Coronell, 109, TKO'd Uriel Londono, 108, in the sixth round.

Ever Beleno outpointed Pedro Mendoza in a six-round flyweight bout.

Wilson Palacios, 128, decisioned Alfonso de Leon, 128, in six rounds.
(8-11-89)

►**CARTAGENA**—Lightweight **Julio Llerena** copped a 10-round unanimous decision over **Jose Cortes**, Baru, in the main event at the Indias Bullring.

In a flyweight bout, former contender Rodolfo Blanco TKO'd Toribio Riascos in the seventh round of a scheduled 10.

Fernando Caicedo, Cali, outpointed local product Roberto Beleno in an eight-round featherweight battle.

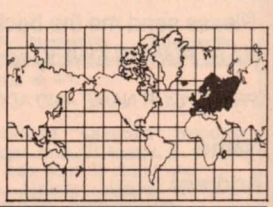
Featherweight Leonardo Padilla copped an eight-round decision over Wilson Fontalvo, San Estanislo.

Omar Cantillo kayoed Jorge Hurtado in the fifth round of a flyweight bout.

In a featherweight matchup, Henry Pajaro TKO'd Cesar Salazar in the third round of a scheduled six.

In the opening bout, bantamweights Yurelvis Clavijo and German Gastelbondo battled to a four-round draw.
(9-1-89)

Luis A. Gonzalez



EUROPE

FINLAND

►**HELSINKI**—In the main event at Toolo Sportshall, 1984 Olympic bronze medalist **Joni Nyman** earned a disputed eight-round split decision over British welterweight **Del Bryan**, who appeared to have landed more punches. Nyman is 4-1 (2).

The co-main event featured a rematch between Hannu "The Hammer" Vuorinen, Helsinki, and Lloyd Lee. Vuorinen captured a unanimous decision and raised his record to 4-0-1 (3).

Light welterweight Jan Nyholm, Helsinki, and Seamus O'Sullivan, England, fought to a draw. Nyholm is 4-0-1 (1).

Southpaw featherweight Alan McKay and Jari Gronroos fought to a six-round draw.

Colombian-born lightweight Jose Tuominen captured his fifth straight win with a TKO of Rudi Valentino, England. Valentino received two standing eight-counts in round one. He then sustained a butt that led to a cut severe enough to stop the fight in round two.

Promoters: Simo Karkkainen and Tom Sjoberg
(9-4-89)

Petri Paimander

YUGOSLAVIA

►**KAMNIK**—**Raso Tigan**, Ljubljana, earned a four-round decision over **Branko Kusla** in a lightweight showdown at the local Cinema Hall.

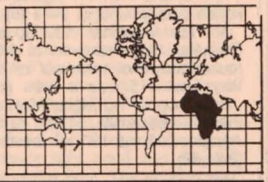
In a light heavyweight matchup, Momo Cupelic, Kamnik, decisioned brave veteran Dusan Cavic, Kranj, over four rounds.

The attendance was reported at 500. The referee was Janez Gale, and the ringside physician was Dr. Sasa Kosovinc.
(5-30-89)

►**Budva**—In a middleweight main event, 31-year old local idol **Miomir Perunovic** decisioned 22-year-old Belgian **Fillip Houthood** over eight rounds at the Budva Soccer Stadium.

The judges were Dusko Sekulic, Rajko Djajic, and Janez Gale. The referee was Branko Milosavljevic. The attendance was reported at 4,000.
(7-26-89)

Janez Gale



AFRICA

NIGERIA

►**LAGOS**—The date of August 25, 1989, will surely remain indelible for Nigerian junior welterweight champion Kola Thompson. The 26-year-old, making only his second title defense, climbed into the ring of the Indoor Sports Hall against old warhorse Ganiyu Giwa and lost not only his belt but almost his life, too.

A stylist with admirable footwork and hand speed, Thompson received an ominous warning in the third round when a head butt necessitated medical attention on his cut left eye.

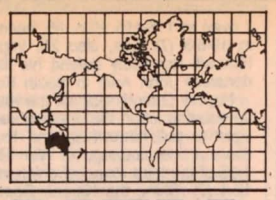
Despite this, his combination punches kept the rugged challenger at bay, and Thompson would have secured a knockout if he possessed a solid punch. He paid dearly for his taunting gimmicks in the 11th stanza, when the challenger delivered a crushing left hook that sent Thompson to the canvas. The title dramatically changed hands, and the former champion spent three days at a hospital.

In other bouts, African middleweight champion Hunter Clay took a unanimous decision over light heavyweight Augustine Ogudu in their catchweight six-round encounter.

Victor Enyika and Adebayo Rufus, two of the country's most promising bantamweights, contested for the vacant title. Enyika, the champion before being stripped, regained his crown with a second-round TKO.

The Nurat promotion drew 1,000 spectators. The officials were James Oguntoye, Sammy Rex George, and Folurunso Jacobs.
(8-25-89)

Tunde Ogunnoiki



PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

►**FREMANTLE**—Fighting for the vacant Australian junior welterweight title at Cargo's nightclub, **Tony Jones**, 140, TKO'd former champion **Pat Leglise**, 137¼, in round nine when the fight was stopped by referee John Cauchi because of a cut eye. Leglise's eyes had been cut early, but the injuries were not serious. In the ninth, however, Jones split Leglise's eyebrow, prompting the immediate stoppage. At that point, Jones was ahead on points. It was the fighters' second meeting; Leglise had won in 1986, when Jones quit in round six.
(8-16-89)

VICTORIA

►**GEELONG**—Spectators at The Arena saw a good fight when **Rod Carr**, 165, stopped **Joe Nitiva**, 165½, in round four of a scheduled 12-rounder for the vacant Australian and OPBF junior light heavyweight title. Carr dropped Nitiva in round one. Nitiva scrambled to his feet, but was further pummeled in round four before referee Jim Boland stopped the fight.

In other action, Jack Johnson, 200¼, outpointed Mark Saris, 190, over 10 rounds. Two judges saw it 98-92 and 97-95, respectively, for Johnson, but a third judge scored for Saris, 96-94. Johnson, an American, has been in Australia for several months.
(8-26-89)

►**MELBOURNE**—Showing that he could live up to his name, **Jimmy Thunder**, 216, had no trouble with Dutchman **Andre Van Der Ostelaar**, 237, as he thundered lefts and rights during round three at the Showground. Referee Chris Anderson rescued Van Der Ostelaar by stopping the fight after the loser was dropped once each in rounds two and three.

In another 10-rounder, Ken Carter, 139½, stopped fellow Aussie Tony Marretta, 137¾, in round three. Marretta rose from a knockdown but had nowhere to escape, and referee Johnny Wheeler stopped the fight.

Over six rounds, Jamie Sayers, 130, outpointed Chris Cooper, 130.

Mark Glover, 143¼, outpointed George Yianni, 145½.

Promoter: Don Stuchberry
(9-1-89)

QUEENSLAND

►**MANSFIELD**—In a scheduled 10-rounder at the Tavern, **Craig Petersen**, 188¾, stopped **Mosese Vilia**, 196¼, at 2:29 of round one when a left hook decked Vilia, who lay unconscious for two minutes. Referee Alan Moore didn't count him out. Instead, he immediately called for a physician and then raised the hand of the 18-year-old Petersen, who could become the next Australian cruiserweight champion.

In a scheduled eight-rounder, Rod Price, 152½, kayoed Dave Chaffey, 153½, in round five. Like Vilia, Chaffey was out cold for a couple of minutes.

Scott Baker, 133½, outpointed Alan Hindmarsh, 132¼, over six rounds.

John Porter, 154½, outpointed Shane O'Brien, 150, over four rounds.

Promoter: Con Russell
(8-28-89)

►**BROADBEACH**—At Jupiter's Casino, **Troy Waters** defended his Commonwealth junior middleweight title against **Judas Clottey**, Ghana, with a unanimous 12-round decision. The scores were 117-112, 117-109, and 119-107. Waters, rated first by the IBF, will soon receive a mandatory title shot.

Troy's older brother, Guy Waters, 174¼, defended his Commonwealth light heavyweight crown against Roy Skeldon, 174¼, England. Waters pun-

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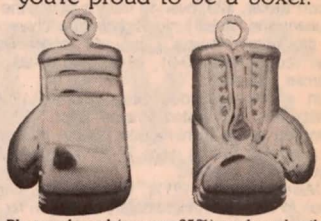

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ished Skeldon badly in every round and won on points by scores of 120-105, 120-98, and 118-108. George Barnes refereed.

Six-round action featured Tommy West, 173½, outpointing Dekir Kantarci, 180.

Johnny Fooks, 135½, outpointed Tilta Halpin, 135, over six rounds.

Promoter: Marty Rhone
(9-2-89)

►**MANSFIELD—Johnny Fooks**, 127¾, outpointed **Scott Baker**, 129, over 10 rounds to win the vacant Queensland state junior lightweight championship at the Tavern. It was a fast and entertaining fight. The scores were 99-91, 98-92, and 99-90. George Barnes refereed.

In an eight-rounder, Diego Duran, 120¼, the Philippines, outpointed Wayne Elliot, 122¼, in a non-stop action eight-rounder. Duran is now based in Australia. Scores were 77-75, 78-76, and 76-76. Cyril Cairns refereed.

Martin Roberts, 121¼, unleashed a furious left hook to deck Alan Hindmarsh, 125¾, in round one and followed with two more hooks that sent Hindmarsh to the canvas. The fight ended in 75 seconds.

Pat Stone, 174¼, unanimously outpointed Ashley Byrnes, 174¼, in a close four-rounder.

Kid Glover, 143¼, unanimously outpointed Steve Graham, 156½.

Promoter: Col McIlwaine
(9-13-89)

Ray Mitchell

NEW ZEALAND

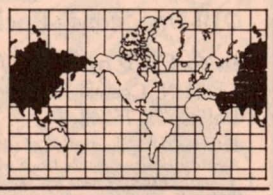
►**AUCKLAND**—In a closely contested six-rounder, **Rudi Filipovic**, 164, finished strongly and stopped **Peter Patelo**, 158, in the final round. Filipovic landed a steady flow of punches that forced referee Eddie Manuela to halt the fight.

Young Tanuvasa, 146, and Graham Durbin, 150, both boxed cleanly and were not opposed to exchanging stiff punches in an excellent six-rounder. The judges were unanimous in picking Tanuvasa as the winner. The referee was Johnny Hanks.

In a six-rounder, where both fighters belied their nicknames, "Lightning" Afakasi, 153, lost a split decision to "Hitman" Tanuvasa. The referee was Beaven Weir.

The show, held at the East Tamaki Rugby club, drew 100 people.
(8-24-89)

Johnny Hanks



THE ORIENT

SOUTH KOREA

►**SANCHONPO—Bong Jun Kim**, 105, kept his WBA minimumweight crown with a majority but popular decision over compatriot **Sam Joong Lee**, 104½, over 12 frames. It was the first world title bout between Koreans for a WBA or WBC championship. There were no knockdowns, but it was a hot encounter between two durable fighters.

Kim had acquired the vacant WBA title by stopping Colombian Agustin Garcia in seven lopsided rounds in Pohang last April. In his first defense, Bong Jun started strongly, scoring with fast and accurate overhand rights against the shorter Lee. Sam Joong had his left eye puffed in the fourth. Lee, the former Korean national champ, tried to crowd Kim, but the defending titlist utilized his lateral movement to avert Lee's stronger but singular punches.

Bong Jun, known for his relentless infighting, proved in this fight that he can also display good footwork. After losing the fifth, Kim outboxed and outlegged the flatfooted Lee to take the three rounds. In the last four sessions, Lee stalked the fading champ, but his attack was not enough to overcome the early points deficit.

Carlos Berrocal (Panama) had it 118-114 for Kim, Takeshi Shimakawa (Japan) saw the fight 120-113, also for Kim. Narciso Macahor (Philippines) scored it even at 115-115. Kim, 25, bettered his credentials to 19-5-3 (7). Lee, also 25, improved to 16-4 (4). Kim will reportedly defend his title next against Indonesian John Arief in South Korea in November.

Napuni Oduori, 123, hit the deck after catching a devastating left in the opening session, but he managed to pull himself up and fought back hard to score a fine stoppage of Won Ge Shim, 125¼, at 1:05 of the third round of a scheduled 10. Napuni is 12-4 (7). Shim, the Korean Commission's number-nine bantamweight, is 13-4 (9).

Having been disqualified in his quest for the OPBF junior welterweight throne against Naoki Ito in Japan last April, Sung Woon Song, 142¼, Korea's top contender in the 140-pound class, proved too ringwise and strong for Ko Sup Song, 141¼, disposing of him at 2:40 in the fifth round of a scheduled eight. The winner is 18-2 (5). Another Korean, Mun Sil Chi, acquired the OPBF crown via kayo over Ito, and Song will likely meet Chi in his second quest for the title.
(8-6-89)

►**INCHON—Jun Sok Hwang**, 156½, the WBA's seventh-ranked junior middleweight, engaged in a grudge match with **Seung Soon Lee**, 156½, and battered his fading opponent in the later rounds to take a unanimous 10-round decision (98-94, 98-94, and 98-93). Both have failed to win world crowns. Hwang dropped Donald Curry, but lost a unanimous 15-round decision in Febuary 1983. But Hwang beat ex-champ Pipino Cuevas on points in July of the following year. Lee suffered a humiliating first-round kayo at the hands of Mark Breland in his bid for the WBA welterweight crown earlier this year. The taller Lee attempted to outpunch the stocky brawler with straight punches. This strategy was successful in the first half of the fight. But as the bout progressed, Hwang caught Lee with heavy body shots at close range and effectively weakened him. Hwang is 38-4 (26), and Lee fell to 32-4 (25).

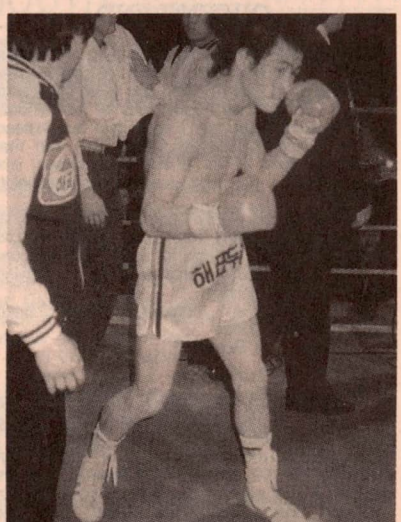
Former WBA bantamweight champ Chan Yong Park moved up to the junior featherweight class and is now ranked 10th by the WBA. Park, 124, was befuddled by the long reach of Colombian Alvaro Bohorquez, 124, but dropped him twice and scored an impressive knockout at 2:45 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10. Park, who yielded his WBA crown to Puerto Rican Wilfredo Vasquez via 10th-round kayo in 1987, improved to 29-4-2 (12). Bohorquez, Colombia's top junior featherweight, fell to 33-4 (16).

Kyung Jae Chang, 112, a lefty puncher, became the new Korean flyweight champion by stopping Chan Woo Yang, 112, at 1:42 of the seventh round in a 10-round elimination bout. The national title was relinquished by Jae Sok Park, who beat world-ranked Isidro Perez on March 25 to become ranked by the WBC and WBA. Chang is a tough southpaw who raised his credentials to 14-3-1 (6). Yang is 6-5-2 (3).

Wang Sup Lee, the WBA's 12th-ranked super middleweight, 169¾, demolished Yong Hun Ko, 169½, at 1:27 of the fifth round in a supporting eight.
(8-13-89)

►**PUSAN**—Former WBC 108-pound champion "Korean Hawk" **Jung Koo Chang** made a fine comeback, whipping Mexican **Armando Velasco** to win a one-sided decision (100-91, 99-93, and 99-91) over 10 rounds. After successfully defending the light flyweight title 15 times, Chang relinquished his title due to personal troubles. Chang finally divorced his wife, whose family invested the champ's big purses in a restaurant business that met financial disaster. He is now a hungry fighter again. Chang, age 26, is 37-1 (16).

Yun Sup Park wrested the Korean junior featherweight title by stopping the defending champ, Jae Won Chol, in the sixth session of the 10-round semifinal.
(8-27-89)



Comebacking Jung Koo Chang

JAPAN

►**TOKYO**—At the Korakuen Hall, the mecca of boxing in Japan, OPBF champion **Chan Mok Park**, the WBA's top-rated featherweight contender, 125½, moved as if he had four legs and averted the punches of challenger **Kengo Fukuda**, 126, and retained the title with a 12-round majority draw. It was a dull affair, with Park making use of his footspeed and Fukuda missing plenty of punches. The scoring was 119-113 for Park, 118-118, and 117-117. Park, 8-2-2 (0), revelaed his total lack of power and showed only good defense and counterpunching. He will receive a mandatory title shot against WBA champion **Antonio Esparragoza** by next March. Fukuda, 15-2-2 (10), is a handsome 21-year-old ex-movie star.

In the semifinal 10, hard-punching Michinori Hashimoto, 120½, the Japanese commission's sixth-rated bantamweight, bled from a cut on his forehead and was held to a draw by a durable Filipino named Romeo Opriasa, 119½. Hashimoto is 9-2-1 (9). Opriasa, ranked second in the Philippines, is 21-5-3 (7).
(8-14-89)

►**TOKYO—Yoshiaki Tajima**, the Japanese middleweight champion, 158, seized the vacant OPBF crown with a lopsided 12-round verdict over Indonesia's **Udiana**, 158. The shorter but sturdy 31-year-old lefty Tajima dominated throughout with straight lefts and right hooks to the head and body. Udiana suddenly opened up in the ninth, but Tajima responded with even harder blows, and Udiana took a standing eight-count. The scoring was 117-113, 118-110, and 118-111. Tajima, a late-bloomer with a karate background, is 9-4-1 (5). Udiana fell to 11-3.

In the semifinal 10, up-and-coming Katsuya Onizuka, 115, improved to 9-0 (8) with a fourth-round body-shot knockout of South Korea's Sang Won Lee, 115. Lee is 4-4-1 (2).

In a supporting eight, Mexican import Jose Yamashita Escamilla, 126, kayoed Filipino Chiba Aprado, 125, at 1:47 of the third round.
(8-21-89)

►**TOKYO**—A major upset at Korakuen Hall, as **Takehito Nakano**, 135, kayoed Japanese lightweight champion **Noboru Godai**, 135, with a lethal right uppercut at 1:24 of the second. The 29-year-old Godai, rated 18th by the WBC, fell to 24-5-2 (9), while Nakano improved to 10-4 (6).

Fumihiko Kimura, 156, won via lackluster unanimous eight-round decision over awkward Tomoo Suzuki. Kimura, 4-0 (2), was booed for his hit-and-run tactics. Suzuki is 4-1 (3).

Kazuhiro Shimamoto, 118, jumped to 9-0 (3) by dropping Korean Sang Myon Choi, 118, thrice and scoring a TKO at 1:02 of the third.
(8-12-89)

►**TOKYO**—At Korakuen Hall, rough swinger **Masumi Yamaguchi**, 144¾, scored an astonishing come-from-behind kayo over **Tatsuhiro Kawabata**, 147, at 1:57 of the sixth in a scheduled 10. The fighters were the numbers four and two Japanese contenders, respectively. Yamaguchi had lost every round by a clear margin until landing a single right hook. He is 5-2-2 (4). Kawabata fell to 8-6 (5).

Kenichiro Kojo, 130, halted Mutsumi Suzuki, 130, at 1:22 of the fourth in a semifinal scheduled for 10.
(8-1-89)

►**TOKYO**—At Korakuen Hall, top Japanese flyweight contender **Osamu Sasaki**, 114, displayed newly developed counter rights and dropped **Nobuyuki Sudo**, 114, thrice to score an automatic stoppage at 2:20 of round two. Sasaki is 15-2 (9), Sudo 7-8-1 (6).
(8-3-89)

►**TOKYO**—At Korakuen Hall, unbeaten lefty prospect **Takashi Matsuo**, 122, kayoed **Tamotsu Hattori**, 122, at 0:31 of the fourth in a scheduled eight. Matsuo, who registered two standing eight-counts in the second, finished his foe with a smashing left. He's 9-0 (5).
(8-4-89)

►**TOKYO**—Again at Korakuen Hall, imported Filipino **Armando (Chiba) Tenoria**, 107, survived a second-round knockdown and floored **Toshinari Miyazato**, 108, for the count at 2:29 of the fourth. The kayo came simultaneously with a clash of heads, and the loser's handlers issued a protest, but it was denied. Miyazato dipped to 5-5-4 (2).
(8-5-89)

►**MATSUMOTO CITY**—Japanese junior middleweight champion **Hitoshi Kamiyama**, 151½, scored an impressive TKO at 1:39 of the second round against **Eiju Otake**, 153¾. There was one knockdown in the first and three more in the second. It was Kamiyama's second win over Otake. He raised his mark to 12-1-1 (6). Otake fell to 7-8 (3).
(8-6-89)

►**OSAKA**—Former world title challenger **Dong Chun Lee** of South Korea has been imported by a Japanese boxing club. He's changed his name to **Great Kanayama**, 119, and he scored a TKO at 1:46 of round six against overmatched lefty **Takahito Kageyama**. Kanayama is 31-8-2 (16). Kageyama fell to 3-4 (2).
(8-9-89)

►**OSAKA**—At the Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium, **Kotaro Hayashi**, 113½, scored an upset and split, but popular, 10-round decision over **Emil (Romano) Matsushima**, 113½. Hayashi had been fighting as **Kwang Bok Lim** in his native South Korea. Matsushima was outsped and outpunched by the newcomer. He is 21-6-2 (13). Hayashi is 5-2 (2).

In a semifinal l0, Yasuyuki Noguchi, 135¾, scored a TKO at 1:40 of round seven against Filipino Dindo Canoy. The loser fell to 10-5 (5).
(8-17-89)

►**SAPPORO**—World-rated Filipino junior bantamweight champion **Cobra Ari Blanca**, 117¾, was aggressive throughout and battered Japan's **Jun Yonesaka**, 116¾, en route to a unanimous 10-round decision win. The scores were 100-95, 98-96, and 99-98. Yonesaka defended himself well against his lefty foe but forgot to hit back. Blanca is 29-4-2 (11). Local prospect Yonesaka is 8-4-1 (3).
(8-27-89)

►**TOKYO**—At Korakuen Hall, Japanese junior bantamweight champion **Shunichi Nakajima**, 115, outmanuevered a game but monotonous challenger named **Toshio Aikawa**, 115, and won a unanimous 10-round decision. It was the fifth defense of Nakajima, rated fifth by the WBC. At one point, Aikawa exploded with a one-two and almost buckled the champion's knees. But Nakajima then paid respect to his opponent's right hand and pressed the action for the rest of the bout. The scoring was 98-96, 98-97, and 98-97. Nakajima, who didn't show his best form, is seeking a bout with WBA 115-pound champion Khaosai Galaxy. He is 21-4 (12). The challenger fell to 8-8-1 (4).

Satoshi Yokozaki, 158, whipped Yoshinori Nishizawa, 160, with combinations from all angles and won a unanimous 10-round decision. Yokozaki is 5-4-2 (4).
(8-29-89)

NOTES: A middle-aged foreigner was introduced to the crowd before the main event at Korakuen Hall on August 29. He was accompanied to the ring by former world champion **Fighting Harada**, who is now president of the Japanese Managers Union. The guest turned out to be former bantamweight king **Lionel Rose**, the Australian who upset Harada in February 1968. Rose was in Japan to discuss the planning of a movie about his life.

THAILAND

►**BANGKOK**—The headliner at Lumpinee Stadium featured **Thanomsak Sithboabay**, the WBA's second-ranked junior bantamweight, against unbeaten rising prospect **Torsak Osodsapha**, ranked 16th by the WBC. Sithboabay proved to have too much experience, as he won a unanimous 10-round decision against the southpaw. Sithboabay dropped Osodsapha in the second round with a right hand. But Torsak answered right back by dropping Sithboabay with a right hook.

Thanomsak applied the pressure to the mobile lefty all the way through the bout. It was a good fight, but Sithboabay saw Osodsapha fading and attacked him with hot and accurate punches in the last three rounds. Thanomsak, a well-proportioned boxer-puncher, is 26-1 (13). He suffered his sole defeat to Kenji Matsumura in a controversial split decision which saw him also lose his OPBF flyweight crown. Torsak tasted defeat for the first time, dipping to 8-1 (8).
(8-8-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Linglom Sirthopol**, 112, became the new Thai flyweight champion, as he dropped **Champ Klatpetch**, 112, in the second and fourth rounds and defeated him via unanimous 10-round decision. It was considered an upset because Linglom had been a kickboxer and did not have a long career in international-style boxing. But he did display his potential punching power and seized the national crown.
(7-2-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Monchai Sorjaturong**, 132, Thailand's sixth-ranked featherweight, displayed his wicked southpaw lefts and dropped former national junior lightweight boss **Tawin Narachawat**, 132, in the second session en route to earning a unanimous decision over six rounds. The ex-champ had been suspended for four years and was making a comeback attempt. But his ring rust was obvious and Sorjaturong's power was superior. The winner is a sparring partner for WBA junior bantamweight champ Khaosai Galaxy.
(7-10-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Jimmy Sithphaiding**, 126, successfully kept his Thai featherweight title by stopping **Ayuthaya Sithfaidang**, 125, at 1:26 of the sixth round in a scheduled 10. It was their third encounter—all with Jimmy's title at stake. The champion had previously knocked out Ayuthaya twice.
(7-12-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Downrung Chuvatana Technicutradt**, the top Thai flyweight contender, as well as an IBF-ranked contender, sent **Sor Samreung**, 114, to the deck and scored a third-round knockout in a scheduled six.
(7-15-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Phalan Lukmingkwan**, 105, became the new Thai mini flyweight champion, as he dropped **Ded Donjadee**, 105, several times and finished him in the second round of a 10-round eliminator. Chana Porpaoin, highly ranked by the WBA, had given up his national throne in order to prepare for his forthcoming crack at the world title.
(7-27-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Thantavan Narphataya**, 119, the TBC's second-ranked bantamweight, scored a unanimous decision over **Sakda Sorpakdi**, 121, in six. Narphataya was previously fighting under the name of Thantavan Wongvianyal.
(7-28-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Noree Jockygym**, 124, Thai junior featherweight champ, easily polished off **Nakarach Klatsonthaya** in the second round of a scheduled 10. In May, Noree impressed a Japanese crowd, as he almost knocked out champ Naoto Takashi, now the WBA's third-ranked contender. But in that bout, Noree was finally defeated in the third round. Jockygym is 26-7-1 (11).
(7-30-89)

►**BANGKOK**—**Visuth Chuvatana**, 110, the TBC's top mini-flyweight contender, defeated unknown Panpetch P. Prasartpetch, 110, by unanimous decision in six.
(7-31-89)

PHILIPPINES

►**QUEZON CITY**—**Rolando Protacio**, the number nine flyweight in the Philippines, was held to a split draw by **Joseph Saljob** over 10 rounds. Protacio had Saljob retreating throughout the fight, but Protacio failed to score effectively against the negative counterpuncher. The judges scored 98-96 for Protacio, 96-95 for Saljob, and 97-97.

Former Filipino featherweight champion Rudy Cabiles had Bert Pucay bleeding from the nostrils and went on to capture a fourth-round TKO in a scheduled 10-rounder. Having been dethroned by Jojo Cayton in July 1987, Cabiles had suffered consecutive defeats by Roberto Granciosa and Kang Sok Lee before this win.

Manny Melchor, the Philippines' number seven junior flyweight, dropped a unanimous decision (98-93, 98-96, and 98-95) to Fred Tipait in a gory 10-rounder. Tipait is 8-3-1 (1), and Melchor is 9-10-2 (2).

Number seven flyweight Muhammad Alip decisioned Dommy Ursua, Jr. in 10. The scoring: 97-94, 99-93, and 98-93, all for Alip, who is now is 9-7 (2).
(8-29-89)

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►**GRORIA MINDRO**—Hard-punching prospect **Cris Saguid**, the number three Filipino featherweight, stopped **Boy Masuay** in round two of their scheduled 10-rounder. Saguid displayed his power before his hometown crowd. He had beaten ex-Orient champion Byung Soo Park on points in the latter's comeback in Korea last May.

Ronnie Belaro, the number three junior featherweight, TKO'd Fred Mendoza in round three of a schedued 10-rounder. Jun Pastor, the Filipino number four junior welterweight, decisioned Jessie Solis, a top lightweight contender, in 10 rounds.
(8-29-89)

►**MANILA—Rolando Bohol**, 114, utilized his speed and skills to win a majority but popular decison over ex-IBF world flyweight champion **Chong Kwan Chung**, 114, in a 12-rounder. It was the OPBF's mandatory defense, and Bohol kept his title against the top contender. The southpaw champion averted Chung's roundhouse blows and scored with lefts and rights. Judge Corsine Cayanan (Philippines) had it 120-112, David Gilhooly (Hong Kong) had it 118-115, and Wan Soo Yuh (South Korea) scored 116-116. Bohol, who lost his IBF flyweight title to Duke McKenzie in England last October, is only 22. He raised his record to 27-3-3 (5). Chung, 28, is 17-11-4 (6).

In a supporting 12-rounder, Allan Alegria, 139¾, was behind on points but dropped southpaw challenger Rod Sequenan, 136, in round 11 and held him off in the final round to win a unanimous decision. Alegria's national junior welterweight title was at stake. Sequenan, the number seven IBF contender, was coming off a kayo win over Jongjong Pacquing, then the IBF's top contender, on June 16. Alegria nailed Sequenan with a right-left-right combination to the face in round 11, and the challenger fell to the canvas. Alegria bullied him after that to build up points and overcome an early points deficit.

Brix Flores, rated seventh at featherweight, was TKO'd by Fernando Palad midway through the 10th and final round. Flores is 6-2 (4). Flores' cornerman threw in the towel when his fighter began bleeding profusely.

Jerry Penalosa, 112, the younger brother of ex-IBF world champion Dodie Boy Penalosa, earned a unanimous decision over Bernie Boy Bernardo, 113, in eight rounds. Penalosa is 3-0.
(8-4-89)

►**MALABON, METRO MANILA**—Ex-Filipino featherweight champion **Rudy Cabiles**, 132, defeated **Leon Collins**, 132, the number four junior lightweight, by decision in 10. In other action, Sammy Ansig, 117, scored his second win by outpointing Elmer Tuling in 10.
(8-12-89)

►**MAKATI, METRO MANILA—Darry Caballes**, the Philippines' number eight lightweight, smashed solid right hooks to the side of **Pablo Manglangit's** midsection and won a unanimous decision (100-94, 99-94, and 99-95) in 10 rounds.

In the semifinal, Ric Bajelot fired good jabs and captured the nod (96-94, 96-94, and 98-95) over Vic Galme, the number nine bantamweight, in 10. Bajelot may only be 15-6-6, but he'll enter the Filipino ratings thanks to this win. Galme is 12-7 (7).

Armando Andales earned a split decision over William Villaflor over eight rounds.
(8-18-89)

►**QUEZON CITY—Jongjong Pacquing**, 140¾, battered South Korea's Yong Yong Lee, 140½, and TKO'd him at 2:54 of round seven. Whenever Pacquing threw solid combinations, Lee, 23, retaliated with strong lefts and rights. But Jongjong solved the awkward style of the Korean and connected with effective bodypunches and rallies to the face. Lee collapsed flat but rose, only to subsequently surrender. Pacquing, 26, is 43-10-3 (21), while Lee is 8-1-1.

In other action, Ronnie Belaro, 121½, captured the vacant Filipino junior featherweight title with a TKO over Ernie Urdanzia, 121, at 2:34 of the 10th in a scheduled 12-rounder. Belaro directed his attacks to his opponent's midsection, and Urdaniza raised his hand as if to say, "No mas." Referee Oscar Reyes promptly halted the affair and declared Belaro the winner. The scoring at the time of the stoppage was 99-96, 99-96, and 98-95, all for the newly crowned champion.

Hard-hitting Cris Saguid, 130, the Philippines' number two featherweight, overpowered Jun Arbas, number eight, in junior lightweight action. Saguid pummeled Arbas into submission at 2:45 of the fourth in a scheduled 10-rounder.

Lightweight prospect William Magahin scored his second professional win by a unanimous decision (79-74, 79-74, and 79-73) over Geronimo Magallanes in eight rounds.
(8-19-89)

►**CEBU**—In a non-title fight, Filipino featherweight champion **Jojo Cayson** taught **Billy Rones** a pugilistic lesson as he captured a one-sided decision in 10.

Sharp Ari Penalosa opened a bad gash over the left eyebrow of Manny Melchor, the number nine junior flyweight, to gain a TKO win at 2:58 of round two in a scheduled 10-rounder. Penalosa is ranked 28 by the WBC.

Top Filipino flyweight Rocky Marcial pounded out a unanimous decision over William Mohammad Alip in 10.

Jerry Penalosa, 17, ran his unbeaten record to 4-0 (1) by decisioning Eugene Flores in eight.
(8-19-89)

INDONESIA

►**SOUTH KALIMANTAN**—Filipino southpaw **Loremer Pontino**, 118, opened a cut over the right eyebrow of Indonesian **Wongso Indrajit**, the defending champion, and dropped him with a wicked left to earn a TKO at 2:22 in round 10 of a scheduled 12-rounder for the WBC international bantamweight title.

Five days later, Pontino returned to his native country, only to learn that the Indonesian Commission had received a telex from Antonio Sciarra, the president of the WBC International championship committee, saying he had not sanctioned the Indrajit-Pontino title bout. Sciarra, who is from Italy, wished to have Indrajit and Virgilio Openo meet for the title instead. Because Wongso weighed under the bantamweight limit for the bout, he forfeited his junior crown. In its August ratings, the WBC declared the crown vacant.

Pontino controlled the fight from the start with his powerful lefts. Pontino opened a gash over Wongso's right eye in the fifth, and the eye swelled so badly that the champion could hardly see. Loremer, 22, knocked Indrajit down for the mandatory eight-count and followed up with two-fisted attacks.

The referee temporarily stopped the fight so a ring physician could examine Wongso's cut. Indrajit was allowed to continue, but Pontino battered him mercilessly. The referee then called in the physician, who advised that the fight be stopped. The Indonesian lost the crown that he had gained via decision over Edel Geronimo in November 1988.

In other action, Monod retained his Indonesian junior featherweight title by unanimous decision (117-111, 118-111, and 116-110) over Boy Kelung, the Indonesian Commission's number five contender, in 12 rounds. Monod floored the challenger in the fourth and sixth rounds.

Johnny Ireng took the vacant Indonesian mini-flyweight crown by knocking out Pian Rumpiak in round 10 of the scheduled 12-rounder. Ex-champion Husni Ray relinquished his crown, setting up this eliminator. Ireng is 17-3.

Having beaten highly regarded Filipino Max Forrosuelo by an upset decision in his previous bout, Abdi Pohan defeated veteran Azadin Anhar by close decision in 10.

More than 20,000 spectators at Banjarmasin Main Stadium were in attendance.
(8-12-89)

►**Arthur Surya** annexed the national bantamweight title by scoring with solid counterpunches and won by majority decision (116-113, 117-112, and 115-115) over **Wiem Sapulete** in 12 rounds. It was an upset; Surya had been a junior bantamweight contender.

Adam Suwaji decisioned Sambung in 10.
(8-4-89)

►**Gil Roberto Santos** made a comeback after a two-year layoff and landed a vicious left that knocked out **Mega Camacho**, the IBC's number eight lightweight contender, in round five of a scheduled eight-rounder.

Riantoha, the number three junior featherweight, outpointed Puji Widodo in eight.

Johanes Nanlohi scored an upset decision over Tirus Boy, the IBC's number five junior bantamweight, in eight rounds.
(8-11-89)

►**EAST JAVA**—Number eight mini-flyweight **Hudi** knocked out **Susiadi** in the third round of a scheduled eight-rounder.

Demi drew with Risdianto in a junior bantamweight eight-rounder.
(8-12-89)

Joe Koizumi

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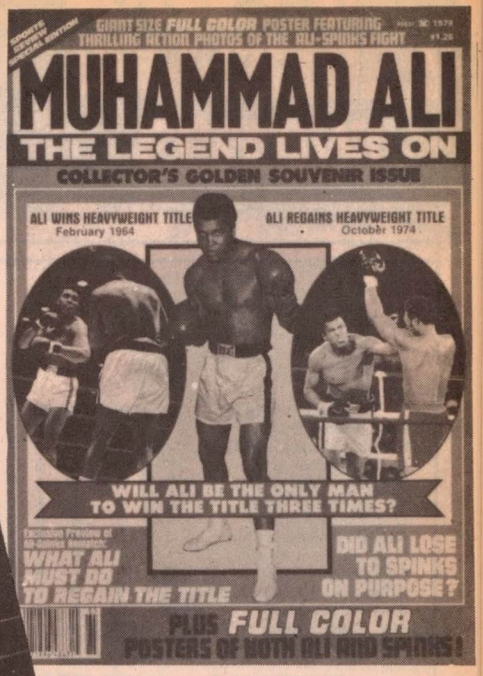

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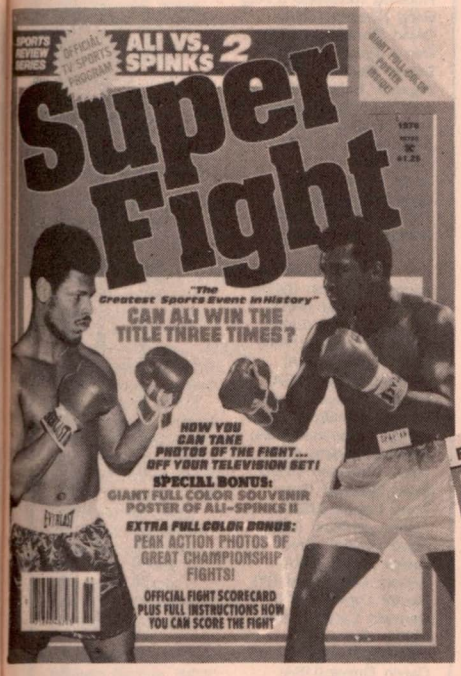

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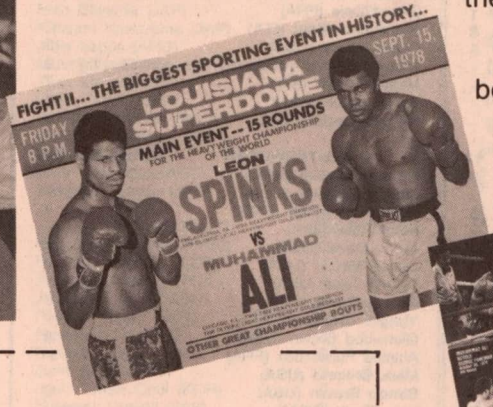

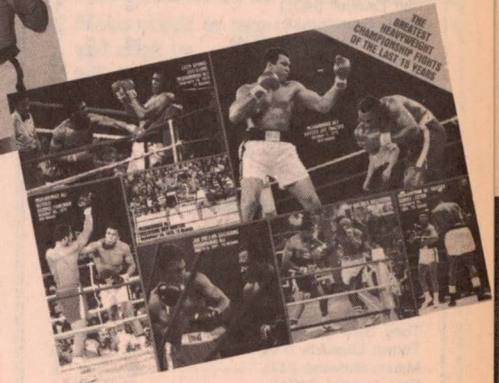

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Razor Ruddock (USA)	2	4	5
James Douglas (USA)	3	5	2
Michael Dokes (USA)	4	7	6
Orlin Norris (USA)	5	6	4
Renaldo Snipes (USA)	6	10	8
Frank Bruno (ENG)	7	8	7
Carl Williams (USA)	8	-	3
Adilson Rodrigues (BRA)	9	9	-
Jose Ribalta (USA)	10	3	9
Alex Stewart (USA)	13	2	10
Gary Mason (ENG)	11	9	11

CRUISERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Carlos DeLeon (PR)	C	-	-
Dwight Muhammad Qawi (USA)	1	3	2
Robert Daniels (USA)	2	1	-
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	3	8	9
Jose Flores (URU)	4	-	12
Magne Haavna (NOR)	5	-	-
Olian Alexander (USA)	6	-	-
Nate Miller (USA)	7	5	5
Daniel Netto (ARG)	8	10	-
Bash Ali (NIG)	9	-	-
Sammy Reeson (ENG)	10	9	-
Glenn McCrory (ENG)	-	-	C
Taoufik Balbouli (MAUR)	-	2	-
Jeff Lampkin (USA)	-	6	1
Craig Bodzianowski (USA)	19	4	7
Angelo Rottoli (ITA)	-	7	4
Patrick Lumumba (KEN)	25	-	3
Leroy Murphy (USA)	-	-	6
Ralf Rocchigiani (GER)	15	11	8
Siza Makhathini (SA)	-	-	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	C	-	-
Tom Collins (ENG)	1	2	-
Dennis Andries (ENG)	2	9	-
Guy Waters (AUSTRL)	3	11	7
James Kinchen (USA)	4	8	1
Mike Sedillo (USA)	5	3	8
Joe Lasisi (NIG)	6	6	5
Leslie Stewart (TRI)	7	-	-
Mario Melo (ARG)	8	12	-
Eric Nicoletta (FRA)	9	-	-
Mwehu Beya (ITA)	10	-	-
Virgil Hill (USA)	-	C	-
Jan Lefeber (HOL)	18	1	12
Uriah Grant (JAM)	11	4	9
Jean-Marie Emebe (FRA)	16	5	-
Alex Blanchard (HOL)	-	7	6
Tony Willis (USA)	13	10	-
Charles Williams (USA)	-	-	C
Rodrigo Benech (URU)	20	-	4
Frankie Swindell (USA)	-	-	2
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	-	-	3
Freddie Delgado (PR)	-	-	11

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ray Leonard (USA)	C	-	-
Thomas Hearns (USA)	1	-	-
Chris Tiozzo (FRA)	2	1	4
Dario Matteoni (ARG)	3	-	-
Don Lee (USA)	4	12	-
Frank Tate (USA)	5	7	2
Tony Byrd (USA)	6	6	-
Tarmo Uusivirta (FIN)	7	2	7
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	8	-	-
Paul Muyodi (UGA)	9	-	-
Ron Essett (USA)	10	3	5
Victor Cordova (PAN)	-	4	6
Carlos Antunes (BRA)	-	-	10
Fulgencio Obelmejias (VEN)	11	5	-
Inchul Baek (KOR)	-	C	-
Paul Whittaker (USA)	29	8	-
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	-	9	8
Danny Morgan (USA)	22	10	-
Lindell Holmes (USA)	-	-	1
Thulani Malingo (USA)	-	-	3
Vincent Boulware (USA)	-	-	12
Rod Carr (AUSTRL)	19	-	9

MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Roberto Duran (PAN)	C	-	-
Lindell Holmes (USA)	1	2	-
Julian Jackson (USA)	2	-	-
Michael Watson (ENG)	3	1	1
Michael Olajide (CAN)	4	11	-
Herol Graham (ENG)	5	3	3
Steve Collins (USA)	6	5	6
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Sumbu Kalambay (ITA)	8	4	7
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Lupe Aquino (MEX)	10	-	-
Frank Winterstein (FRA)	11	10	10
Iran Barkley (USA)	12	7	5
Mike McCallum (JAM)	-	C	-
Tony Thornton (USA)	17	9	-
Nonuyuki Tabata (JAP)	-	8	-
Michael Nunn (USA)	-	-	C
Matthew Hilton (CAN)	-	-	2
Reginald Johnson (USA)	-	-	4
Ron Collins (USA)	23	-	9

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
John Mugabi (UGA)	C	-	-
Rene Jacquot (FRA)	1	7	-
Chris Pyatt (ENG)	2	3	5
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	3	-	1
Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)	4	4	-
Lorenzo Garcia (ARG)	5	11	-
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	6	8	2
Terry Norris (USA)	7	6	-
Jorge Castro (ARG)	8	-	-
Jun Suk Hwang (KOR)	9	2	-
Said Skouma (FRA)	10	-	-
Julian Jackson (VI)	-	C	-
Carlos Elliot (JAP)	12	1	10
Tomas Perez (USA)	13	-	-
Donald Curry (USA)	29	5	4
Horacio Perez (COL)	22	9	-
Gilbert Dele (FRA)	-	10	-
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	-	-	C
Robert Hines (USA)	-	-	3
Arthur Serwano (USA)	18	12	6
Miguel Arroyo (ARG)	11	-	7
Davey Hilton (CAN)	-	-	8
Karama Leota (USA)	-	-	9

WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Marlon Starling (USA)	C	-	-
Maurice Blocker (USA)	1	3	-
Lloyd Honeyghan (ENG)	2	-	4
Fujio Ozaki (JAP)	3	1	-
Aaron Davis (USA)	4	11	5
James McGirt (USA)	5	8	2
Tyrone Trice (USA)	6	6	1
Nino LaRocca (ITA)	7	-	7
Yungkil Chung (KOR)	8	-	-
Glenwood Brown (USA)	9	4	8
Antoine Fernandez (FRA)	10	-	11
Mark Breland (USA)	-	C	-
Simon Brown (USA)	-	-	C
Luis Garcia (VEN)	-	2	-
Manning Galloway (USA)	21	5	3
Engels Pedroza (VEN)	22	7	-
Jorge Bracamonte (ARG)	17	9	-
Mauro Martelli (SWI)	-	10	-
Vincent Pettway (USA)	-	-	6
Derrick Rolon (USA)	-	-	9
Jorge Maysonet (PR)	24	-	10

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	-	-
Kyungduk Ahn (KOR)	1	1	-
Roger Mayweather (USA)	2	-	-
Mauricio Rodriguez (USA)	3	4	10
Frankie Randall (USA)	4	12	3
Sammy Fuentes (PR)	5	3	9
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	6	11	-
Rafael Pineda (COL)	7	8	5
Angel Hernandez (PR)	8	-	8
Mike Johnson (USA)	9	5	-
Donald Caples (USA)	10	-	-
Loreto Garza (USA)	11	10	2
Livingstone Bramble (USA)	12	9	1
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	-	C	-
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	-	-	C
Akinobu Hiranaka (JAP)	13	2	-
Rodolfo Aguilar (PAN)	17	6	12
Vinnie Pazienza (USA)	16	7	6
Courtney Hooper (USA)	-	-	4
John Montes (USA)	18	-	7

LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	-	C
Chilsong Chun (KOR)	1	3	-
Primo Ramos (MEX)	2	-	8
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	3	-	1
Poli Diaz (SPA)	4	4	6
Jose Luis Ramirez (MEX)	5	-	-
Iwao Otomo (JAP)	6	9	-
Rolando Navarette (PHIL)	7	5	4
Greg Haugen (USA)	8	-	2
David Gonzales (USA)	9	-	12
Darryl Tyson (USA)	10	-	-
Edwin Rosario (PR)	-	C	-
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	-	1	-
John Duplessis (USA)	16	6	9
Tracy Spann (USA)	12	-	3
Anthony Jones (USA)	14	7	-
Juan Nazario (PR)	17	2	-
Louie Lomeli (USA)	-	8	5
Lupe Suarez (USA)	-	10	-
Tunde Foster (USA)	22	12	7
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	-	-	10

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	C	-	-
Mario Martinez (MEX)	1	-	-
Jim McDonnell (ENG)	2	2	5
Tyrone Downes (TRIN)	3	6	-
Lupe Suarez (USA)	4	-	8
Bernard Taylor (USA)	5	-	11
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	6	4	9
Rocky Lockridge (USA)	7	9	4
Kenny Baysmore (USA)	8	-	-
George Navarro (USA)	9	-	-
Tracy Patterson (USA)	10	-	-
Brian Mitchell (SA)	-	C	-
Tony Lopez (USA)	-	-	C
Tyrone Jackson (USA)	12	8	10
Floyd Havard (ENG)	17	5	-
Jackie Beard (USA)	22	1	-
Renato Cornett (AUST)	23	-	7
Hector Lopez (MEX)	-	7	-
Renaldo Carter (USA)	-	3	-
Henky Gun (INDO)	19	10	-
John Molina (PR)	-	-	1
Calvin Grove (USA)	-	-	2
Jose Cortez (COL)	-	-	3
Coco Ramirez (MEX)	-	-	6

FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Jeff Fenech (AUSTRL)	C	-	-
Marcos Villasana (MEX)	1	-	-
Lupe Gutierrez (USA)	2	3	2
Chanmok Park (KOR)	3	1	-
Paul Hodkinson (ENG)	4	6	3
Rafael Zuniga (COL)	5	9	-
Calvin Grove (USA)	6	-	-
Stevie Cruz (USA)	7	-	5
Troy Dorsey (USA)	8	10	6
Sidney Dal Rovere (BRA)	9	-	-
Victor Callejas (PR)	10	-	-
Antonio Esparragoza (VEN)	-	C	-
Jorge Paez (MEX)	-	-	C
Jeff Franklin (USA)	15	-	-
Louie Espinoza (USA)	-	2	1
Ryutaro Ueda (JAP)	24	4	-

WBC as of September
WBA as of October
IBF as of October

Jean-Marc Renard (BELG)	-	5	-
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	28	7	-
Tom Johnson (USA)	23	8	-
Myron Taylor (USA)	18	-	4
Harold Rhodes (USA)	13	-	7
Steve McCrory (USA)	-	-	8
Tracy Patterson (USA)	-	-	9
Abe Gomez (USA)	20	-	10

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	C	-	-
Seung Hoon Lee (KOR)	1	12	-
Steve McCrory (USA)	2	-	-
Pedro Decima (ARG)	3	5	10
Jesus Salud (USA)	4	7	3
Naoto Takahashi (JAP)	5	3	7
Paul Banke (USA)	6	4	-
Louie Espinoza (USA)	7	-	-
Chanyoung Park (KOR)	8	9	-
Carlos Romero (VEN)	9	11	-
Luis Mendoza (COL)	10	1	-
Juan Jose Estrada (MEX)	-	C	-
Fabrice Benichou (FRA)	-	-	C
Jose Sanabria (VEN)	-	2	2
Ruben Palacios (COL)	19	6	-
Carlos Uribe (CHIL)	13	8	-
Lee Ki Jun (KOR)	-	10	-
Ramon Cruz (PR)	-	-	1
Hurley Snead (USA)	-	-	4
Kelvin Seabrooks (USA)	-	-	5
Jesse Benavides (USA)	-	-	6
Wilson Fontalvo (COL)	-	-	9
Fransie Badenhorst (SA)	-	-	8

BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Raul Perez (MEX)	C	-	-
Hurley Snead (USA)	1	1	-
Chang Kyun Oh (KOR)	2	2	-
Gerardo Martinez (USA)	3	6	9
Luisito Espinosa (PHI)	4	9	2
Pepillo Valdez (MEX)	5	4	1
Diego Avila (MEX)	6	-	-
Changuito Carmona (MEX)	7	-	-
Greg Richardson (USA)	8	10	-
Gaby Canizales (USA)	9	-	-
Joao Cardosa (BRA)	10	12	-
Kaokor Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
Orlando Canizales (USA)	-	-	C
Cardenio Ulloa (CHI)	11	8	4
Edgar Monserrat (PAN)	-	3	-
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	-	5	-
Carlos Rocha (COL)	16	7	-
Yun Chun Min (KOR)	14	-	3
Eddie Rangel (USA)	-	-	5
Billy Hardy (ENG)	24	-	6
Ray Minus (BAH)	15	-	7
Alessandro DeSantis (ITA)	-	-	8
Wongso Indrajit (INDO)	-	-	10

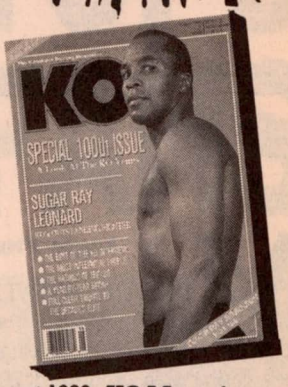
JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Gilberto Roman (MEX)	C	-	-
Thanomsak Sithbaobey (THAI)	1	1	12
Shunichi Nakajima (JAP)	2	3	-
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (JAP)	3	-	-
Sungkil Moon (KOR)	4	2	-
Ray Medel (USA)	5	10	5
Jose Felix Montiel (MEX)	6	-	8
Cesar Polanco (DR)	7	12	-
Santos Laciar (ARG)	8	6	-
Rolando Bohol (PHIL)	9	11	4
Juan Polo (COL)	10	-	1
Khaosai Galaxy (THAI)	-	C	-
Kenji Matsumura (JAP)	-	4	-
Lee Yong Hoon (KOR)	-	5	-
Ernesto Ford (PAN)	15	7	-
Cobra Ari Blanca (PHIL)	12	8	3
Pedro Romero (PAN)	-	9	-
Elly Pical (INDO)	-	-	C
Welcome Ncita (SA)	-	-	2
Peter Mitrevski (AUSTRL)	-	-	6

FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Sot Chitalada (THAI)	C	-	-
Richard Clarke (JAM)	1	-	4
Yongkang Kim (KOR)	2	6	-
Yulwoo Lee (KOR)	3	7	-
Javier Lucas (MEX)	4	4	7
Leopard Tamakuma (JAP)	5	2	11
Claudemir Dias (BRA)	6	-	-
Romy Navarette (PHIL)	7	-	12
Eyup Can (TURK)	8	-	10
Carlos Salazar (ARG)	9	11	-
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	10	8	3
Fidel Bassa (ARG)	-	1	-
Elvis Alvarez (COL)	-	3	-
Kotaro Hayashi (JAP)	26	5	-
Julio Gudino (PAN)	28	9	-
Chun Yun In (KOR)	15	10	-
Jesus Rojas (VEN)	-	C	-
Dodi Penalosa (PHIL)	12	-	1
Dave McAuley (IRE)	-	-	C
Duke McKenzie (ENG)	-	-	2
Louis Curtis (USA)	-	-	5
Daorung Chuwatana (THAI)	-	-	6
Tony DeLuca (USA)	-	-	8
Den Chuvatana (THAI)	-	-	9

LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	C	-	-
Jungkoo Chang (KOR)	1	-	-
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	2	2	1
Den Chuvatana (THAI)	3	3	-
Luis Monzote (CUBA)	4	7	-
Ebo Danquah (GHA)	5	-	3
Soonjoon Kang (KOR)	6	-	-
Rey Hernandez (MEX)	7	-	-
Ali Galvez (CHI)	8	10	-
Isaias Zamudio (MEX)	9	-	-
Sunyong Chung (KOR)	10	12	-
Myung Woo Yuh (KOR)	-	C	-
Leo Gamez (VEN)	-	1	-
Leon Salazar (PAN)	13	4	8
Kajkong Danphoothai (THAI)	-	5	-
Shin Sayama (JAP)	-	6	-
Katzumi Komiyama (JAP)	11	8	-
Jose Lagos (ARG)	-	9	-
Muangshai Kittikasem (THAI)	-	-	C
Tacy Macalos (PHIL)	19	-	2
Isidro Perez (MEX)	-	-	4
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	-	-	5
Gonzalo Villalobos (MEX)	-	-	6
Javier Diaz (MEX)	-	-	7
Mario DeMarco (ARG)	-	-	9
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	-	-	10

STRAWWEIGHT	WBC	WBA	IBF
Napa Katwanchai (THAI)	C	-	-
Kyung Yung Lee (KOR)	1	11	-
Pretty Boy Lucas (PHIL)	2	2	1
Javier Varguez (MEX)	3	-	3
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	4	-	4
Hector Patri (ARG)	5	11	11
Hiyong Choi (KOR)	6	8	-
John Arief (INDO)	7	6	8
Jeum Hwan Choi (KOR)	8	-	-
Hideyuki Ohashi (JAP)	9	1	-
Samjoong Lee (KOR)	10	3	-
Bong Jun Kim (KOR)	-	C	-
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	13	4	10
Joo Sup Shin (KOR)	-	5	-
Danny Nunez (DR)	28	7	-
Silverio Barcenas (PAN)	25	9	-
Nico Thomas (INDO)	30	10	6
Eric Chavez (PHIL)	-	-	C
Luis Monzote (USA)	-	-	2
Francisco Montiel (MEX)	-	-	5
Samuth Sithnarvepol (THAI)	-	-	7
Rey Hernandez (MEX)	-	-	9
Adrian Roman (ARG)	22	-	7
Carlos Mercado (COL)	20	-	9
Mike Phelps (USA)	-	-	10

COLLECTOR'S EDITION!



In August 1989, ***KO Magazine*** reached an important milestone: its 100th issue. The occasion was marked with a special 80-page edition that took an entertaining look back through the ***KO*** years, beginning in 1980. In addition to ***KO's*** regular features, the 100th issue included:

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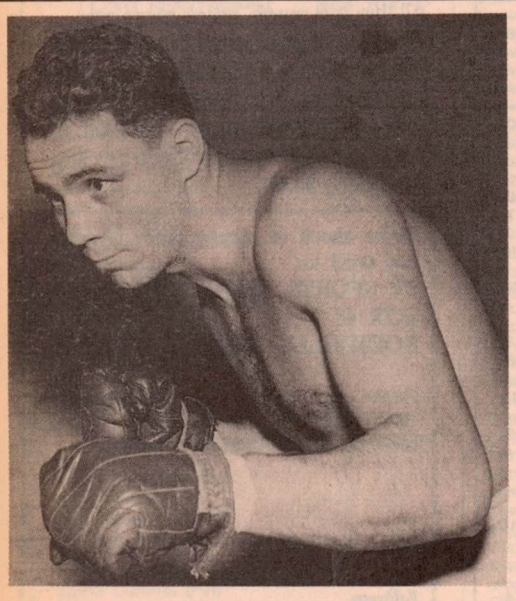
VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

By Angelo Prospero

MIKE AND STEVE Belloise were perhaps the finest brother combination in boxing history. They captured a combined 201 bouts, a record for brothers.

Both were born in New York City. Mike, the older of the two, was born on February 18, 1911, and had his initial fight as a featherweight in 1932, when he defeated Eddie Vaccia in four rounds. He was undefeated in his first 28 bouts, but lost his first title endeavor when Baby Arizmendi outpointed him over 15 rounds in 1934. Sixteen bouts later, he became the 126-pound champion by kayoing Everett Rightmire in Chicago in 14 rounds. In 1936, *The Ring* selected him as the cleverest boxer for the year.

Mike defended his title once, beating Dave Crowley, but a year later, on August 10, 1937, he was stripped of the title for not defending it. In his last championship bout, in 1938, he was defeated by Joey Archibald.



Steve Belloise

Starting in 1939, Mike toured the country, taking on all the top fighters in the featherweight division, including Henry Armstrong, Lew Jenkins, and Petey Scalzo. He retired on March 3, 1942, after losing to Chester Rico, but returned six months later. By 1944, he was just an opponent. He lost six of his last eight bouts.

The elder Belloise had 132 fights, winning 91, losing 29, and drawing 12 times. He rated Armstrong as the best he ever faced, and also had high praise for Bobby Ruffin. Belloise died on June 2, 1969, at age 58.

Younger brother Steve was born December 16, 1918, and, at 5'8", 158 pounds, was a middleweight contender for more than a decade. He met the best in the world, including Sugar Ray Robinson, Tami Mauriello, and Ken Overlin.

A spectacular puncher with power in either hand, Steve won 34 of his first 36 fights and gained a crack at Overlin's title. Many observers thought Belloise won the fight, especially after he scored a late-rounds knockdown. But he lost the decision, as well as the return match.

Belloise defeated Vinnie Vines, Vic Dellicurti, Sammy Luftspring, Ceferino Garcia, Phil Furr, Coley Welch, Robert Villemain, Georgie Abrams, Henry Brimm, Al Hostak, Izzy Jannazzo, Tommy Bell, and Anton Raadik. In 110 total bouts, he won 95, lost 13, and drew twice, scoring 59 kayos. Belloise rated Robinson as the best fighter he ever faced, and Holman Williams as the best boxer. He died on February 18, 1984.

***

VBB NOTES: Former lightweight great George Arajuo, Ed McNally, Eddie Soares, and Martin Taber are all lifetime members of the IVBA Ring 107. This group also includes three brothers, Joe, Jack, and Charlie Gomes . . . Lou Filippo of Downey, California, is pushing for Richie Lemos to be inducted into the World Boxing Hall of Fame. Lemos became NBA featherweight champion when he beat Petey Scalzo in 1941. He lost the title to Jackie Wilson. Lemos won 51 bouts, including 25 by kayo, and lost 22, meeting six world champions along the way . . . Dr. Stu Kirschenbaum, chairman of the Michigan Athletic Board of Control, wants some prizefighters to win the biggest decision of their lives: against drugs. And he's doing something about it. He has started a program that supplements a decision to start random drug testing of fighters . . . The 21st annual dinner-dance of Ring 26 was held on April 1. Matt Baranski, a member of Ring 26, was formerly one of Mike Tyson's trainers. Matt informs us that Tyson has never been cut, having only sustained a bruise now and then . . . Archie Moore, 75-year-old former light heavyweight champion, was in George Foreman's corner when Big George beat Mark Young in January, just as he was when Foreman beat Joe Frazier almost two decades ago. Archie insists that Foreman has a chance against Mike Tyson . . . The Rochester Boxing Association had an impressive head table for their 12th annual dinner. Guests were Don Lalonde, Kid Gavilan, George Chuvalo, Iran Barkley, Ross Virgo, Willie Pep, Tommy Gomez, Lee Sala, Joey DeJohn, New York State Athletic Commission Chairman Randy Gordon, Prentiss Hall, and Vikki LaMotta . . . Bob Foster headlined the third annual Canastota Boxing Dinner . . . Boxing historian and collector Lefty Jorgenson, 811 11th Street in Austin, Minnesota, has one of the most impressive collections of autographed pictures anywhere. What's missing is Muhammad Ali, and Lefty would like help in securing that one. □

(From December 1954 issue)

OLSON TOPS WITH TV FANS

By Johnny Salak

POPULARITY OF FIGHTERS is no longer measured by the work of a good publicity man, word of mouth, reams of newspaper copy, or the often-doctored versions of films. Each week there are about a dozen professional main events that are televised, and an aggregate total of some 40-million pairs of eyes tuned in and watching the proceedings. The fans, who now have the opportunity to see in action just about every ranking fighter there is, have their favorites—not just guys they've read about or occasionally seen—but fighters whose every move they know and rate tops.

At first glance it would appear that Rocky Marciano might be the number-one pinup boy among the televiewers. But that's far from correct. Rocky is popular—let's not get that wrong—but from the televiewers' angle, he probably rates a surprisingly low fourth or fifth.

In his last eight fights, which encompass almost three years, Marciano has been seen on home TV only once, and that an abbreviated and none-too- awe-inspiring performance that saw Jersey Joe Walcott retire in less than three minutes. A one-round kayo always wants one to make with the "oohs" and "ahs," but somehow this one just warranted a shrugging-shouldered "eh."

So Rocky is a comparitive stranger to the video viewer, though earlier he had been seen knocking out Lee Savold, Joe Louis, Freddie Beshore, and Rex Layne, and winning a close decision from Roland LaStarza. Thus his TV popularity has wavered and waned while new heroes have filled the screens.

But don't think that Marciano and his management have been bashfully hiding in stadiums and arenas where, in this day and era, only a select few could see the clouting king at work. Or that they have a distaste for the bundles of green that bundles of sponsors are willing to toss around. They have found it more lucrative to have Rocky's recent bouts screened into theaters and drive-ins before a limited and high-paying audience. His two defenses of the title this year, both against Ezzard Charles, his knockout of LaStarza last year, his bout with Walcott in 1952, and his knockout of Harry Matthews, have all been viewed on theater-TV.

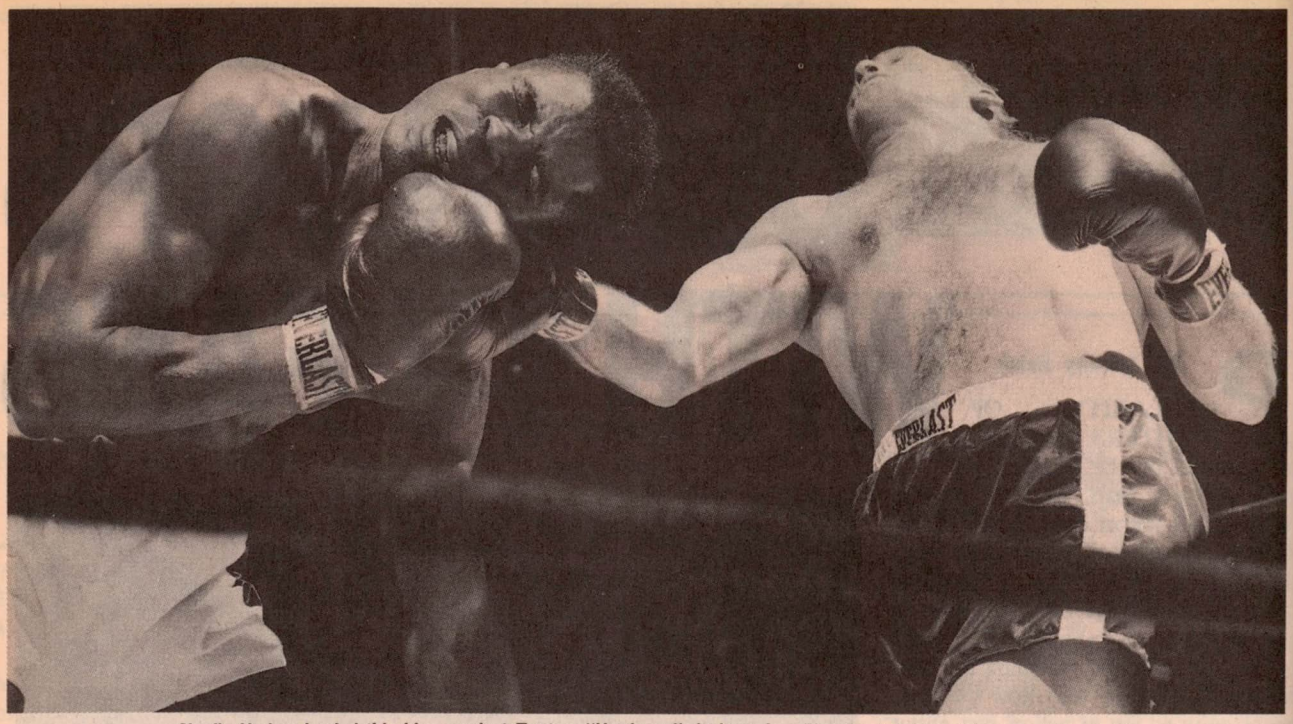
In late-1954, the most popular TV fighter was middleweight champion Bobo Olson, who was riding an 18-fight winning streak. Olson had claimed the vacant crown in 1953, when he decisioned former champion Randy Turpin over 15 rounds at Madison Square Garden.

Gone are many faces who ranked as the popular TV fighters last year, fighters like Gil Turner, Chuck Davey, Vince Martinez, Chico Vejar, Ralph Jones, Ernie Durando, and Paddy Young.

High up in the ratings now come youngsters like Tommy Jackson, Floyd Patterson, Lulu Perez, and Cisco Andrade, and veterans who scintillated in recent performances on TV, such as Archie Moore, Nino Valdes, Charlie Norkus, and Boardwalk Billy Smith.

Kid Gavilan, world welterweight champion, with his stunning hitting and flashy style, was long the number-one TV favorite, but due to inactivity and his losing in a middleweight title bout to Carl "Bobo" Olson, it is the Hawaiian-born Olson who now takes over the top-ranking spot.

Olson is that rare fighter in the ring today—you don't hear too much of him until he is fighting, and then his actions speak louder than words. He is

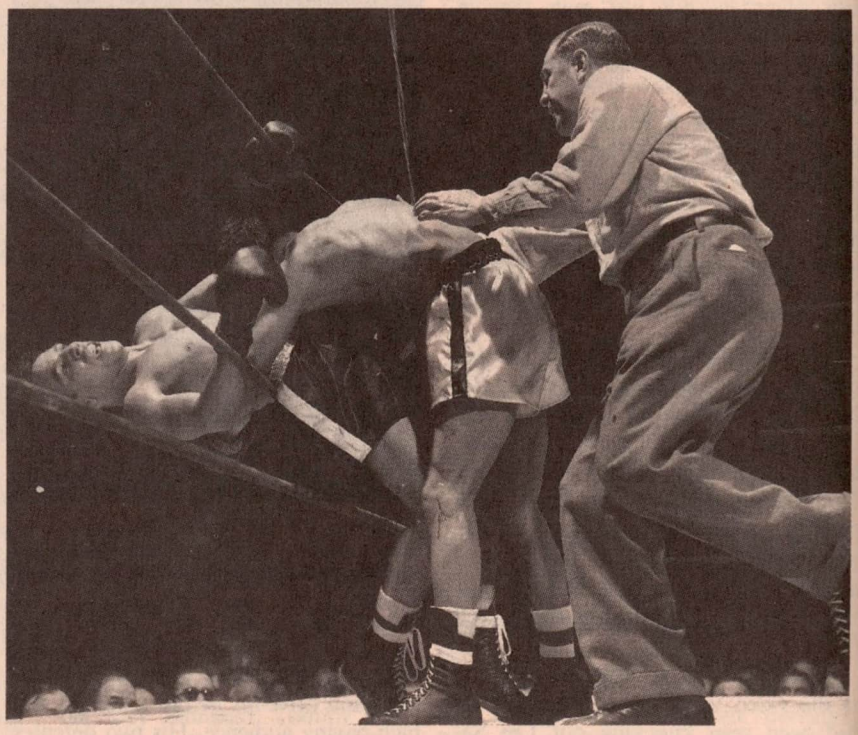


Charlie Norkus landed this blow against Tommy "Hurricane" Jackson in a New York battle of heavyweights in May 1954, but TV favorite Jackson rebounded to stop New Jersey's Norkus in round five.

a continuous action-forcing fighter who is a pleasure to watch, and, in the TV bargain, always seems to win handily. He has been seen on the magic lantern almost a dozen times and hasn't lost since Ray Robinson managed to sneak out a 15-round victory over him early in 1952, a defeat that added to Olson's stature and popularity rather than diminish it.

A heavyweight hurricane that roared across the country, threatening to wreck many a TV antenna with the force of its blows—this one with the boyish name of Tommy Jackson—had the video fans howling with glee, as he raged and romped across the ring, smashing to bits opponent after opponent. In his wake he left the shattered remains of Rex Layne, Clarence Henry, and Dan Bucceroni, until he suddenly seemed to subside when he met Jimmy Slade. But the force of his fury was not all spent, and he swooped down with a mighty blow that laid low Charlie Norkus. And then, like all hurricanes, he vanished into thin air before the thundering fists of Valdes. Jackson was the TV talk of the country, carrying a quick popularity that has been unmatched by any performer in recent years. And even in defeat, his diehard adherents await his return to the ring and the thunder he provokes.

Valdes gained mightily in the fans' favor with the decisive manner in which he disposed of Jackson. His previous TV appearances were on local stations or were national hook-up

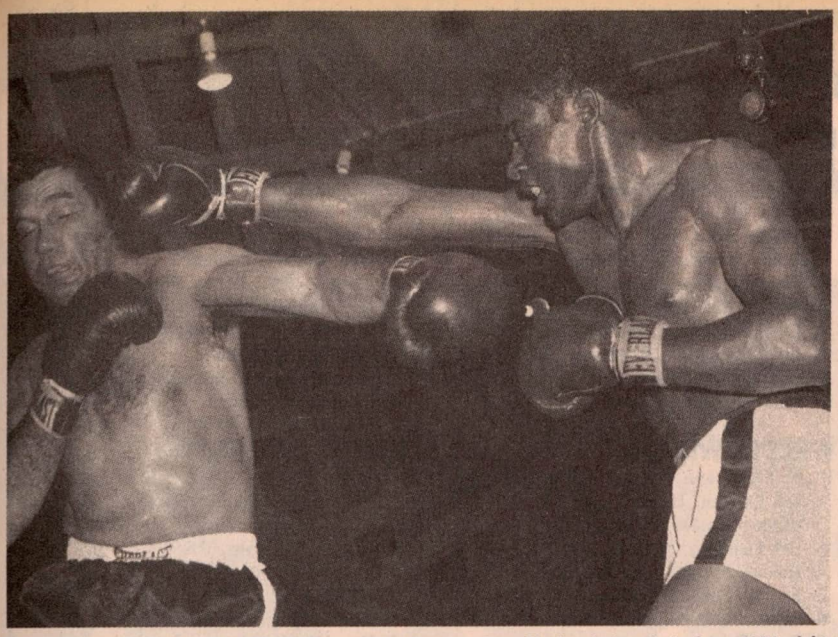


East meets West on most uncomfortable terms as Los Angeles' Dave Gallardo pushes Brooklyn's Lulu Perez through the ropes. The referee is Ruby Goldstein. Perez won a 10-round decision.

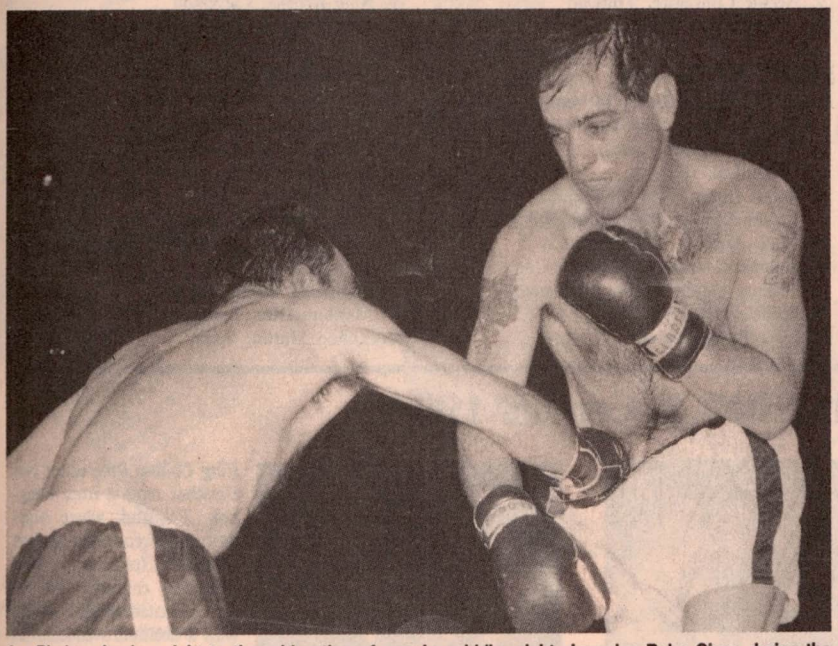
losses. He was the man who had defeated Ezzard Charles, had traveled to Germany to knock out Heinz Neuhaus, and was highly ranked. But he was virtually unknown to the videots. The victory brought him a number-one heavyweight rating and a high regard in the eyes of the televiewers.

Archie Moore, long one of the outstanding fighters in the business, but rarely noticed, reached his own, TV-wise, this year. He defended his light heavyweight title against Joey Maxim, kayoed Bert Whitehurst in six rounds, and then reached his pinnacle when, on the verge of losing his crown to Harold Johnson in Madison Square Garden, came through in the 14th round to sensationally knock out the challenger.

One of the younger members of the boxing fraternity who has risen quickly



Future heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson strikes at Joey Maxim during their June 1954 eight-rounder in Brooklyn. Maxim, a former light heavyweight champion, issued Patterson his first pro loss.



Joe Rindone lands a right to the midsection of popular middleweight champion Bobo Olson during the third round of a non-title 10-rounder in San Francisco. Rindone fell in round five. Olson fought seven times in 1954, and retained the crown against Kid Gavilan, Rocky Castellani, and Pierre Langlois. He would lose the title, however, to Sugar Ray Robinson in December 1955.

in the estimation of the TV fans is Lulu Perez, the battling Brooklyn featherweight who now ranks among the first five in his division and is looked upon as a challenger for Sandy Saddler's crown.

Perez made his move in 1953, with a few impressive television appearances, but really went to town this year, when he started off by defeating Davey Gallardo, halted the once-great Willie Pep in two rounds, and defeated Mickey Mars. He was then put into an elimination 12-rounder with Percy Bassett, but inexperience met its master and Perez was stopped in 11 rounds. But TV fans are sympathetic to their favorites, and they scoffed off the defeat as a "big" boy picking on a "little" boy.

Perez has since made a successful comeback, winning from Jerry Drouin (not on TV) and easily decisioning Bobby Woods. Perez lost little when he fell before the hands of Bassett and still remains a strong and popular favorite with television fans.

Strange how things work out. Floyd Patterson, the youthful and one-time Olympic champion, always a favorite of the fans, gained more in defeat than he had in many of his victories. This year Patterson won over Yvon Durelle and Alvin Williams, victories that meant little in the ratings but kept him in solid with the fans. He then took on former world light heavyweight champion Joey Maxim. It was a big fight for the young boy. Maxim got the unanimous decision of the officials, and Patterson got, just about, the unanimous decision of the ringside working press and the TV audience. It counts as a loss in his record, but you couldn't tell it by the Patterson TV fans. They have martyrized their man, and he has come through so far to vindicate them, halting Jacques Royer-Crecy in seven rounds, stopping Tommy Harrison in one, and decisioning Esau Ferdinand.

Cisco Andrade, "The Compton Comet," is another who has gained tremendous favor among the televiewers. Seen almost exclusively on the *Saturday Night Fights,* the young lightweight has come through this year with victories over Henry Davis, Boland Abrams, Carlos Chavez, Armand Savoie, Percy Bassett, and Hoacine Khalfi.

It has long been said that the television boxing fan—a comparitive newcomer to the sport—had his own set of rules as to what constituted a good fighter: a man who came out of his corner, swinging wildly, taking punches to land the same in an all-action effort.

Perhaps that was so at one time. And perhaps, in his inexperience, he lauded and built up beyond proportions fighters such as Chuck Davey and Tommy Collins, who, when finally forced to meet tough opposition, failed miserably.

But in looking over his favorites of today, we see not only hard-punching fighters, but clever boxers who know their business.

The TV boxing fan of today knows his fighters, knows the styles, and knows the fights he wants to see. Yes, he wants action, but he is ready to applaud a fine all-around fighter like Holly Mims. A knockdown will get him excited, but his blood will also boil after a closely contested fight between two boxers, if he figures the decision went the wrong way.

Fans have always had their sports idols, and always will. But this is a new type of fan we have today, whose opinions are not molded by the eyes or voice of someone else. They have an opportunity of viewing about 150 main events each year on television, with just about every ranking fighter in America cavorting before them on the screens.

A guy who is popular today *really* is. □

THE RING RATINGS, *December 1954*

Paddy DeMarco dethrones Jimmy Carter

HEAVYWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Rocky Marciano,** Brockton, MA

1. **Nino Valdes, Cuba**
2. **Don Cockell, England**
3. **Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati**
4. **Heinz Neuhaus, Germany**
5. **Jimmy Slade, New York City**
6. **Bob Baker, Pittsburgh**
7. **Roland LaStarza, New York City**
8. **Earl Walls, Canada**
9. **Tommy Jackson, Far Rockaway, NY**
10. **Dan Bucceroni, Philadelphia**

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Archie Moore,** San Diego

1. **Billy Smith, Atlantic City**
2. **Joey Maxim, Cleveland**
3. **Paul Andrews, Buffalo**
4. **Harold Johnson, Philadelphia**
5. **Floyd Patterson, Brooklyn**
6. **Gerhard Hecht, Germany**
7. **Bob Satterfield, Chicago**
8. **Willi Hoepner, Germany**
9. **Yolande Pompey, Trinidad**
10. **Jacques Hairabedian, France**

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Carl "Bobo" Olson,** Honolulu

1. **Joey Giardello, Philadelphia**
2. **Holly Mims, Washington, DC**
3. **Tiberio Mitri, Italy**
4. **Rocky Castellani, Cleveland**
5. **Piere Langlois, France**
6. **Willie Troy, Washington, DC**
7. **Georgie Johnson, Trenton, NJ**
8. **Eduardo Lausse, Argentina**
9. **Bobby Jones, Oakland, CA**
10. **Charley Humez, France**

WELTERWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Johnny Saxton,** Brooklyn

1. **Kid Gavilan, Havana, Cuba**
2. **Carmen Basilio, Syracuse, NY**
3. **Del Flanagan, St. Paul, MN**
4. **Ramon Fuentes, Los Angeles**
5. **Freddy Dawson, Chicago**
6. **Al Andrews, Superior, WI**
7. **Tony DeMarco, Boston**
8. **Vince Martinez, Paterson, NJ**
9. **Hector Constance, Trinidad**
10. **Wally Thom, England**

LIGHTWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Paddy DeMarco,** Brooklyn

1. **Jimmy Carter, New York City**
2. **Orlando Zulueta, Cuba**
3. **Duilio Loi, Italy**
4. **Ralph Dupas, New Orleans**
5. **Arthur Persley, Red Crosse, LA**
6. **Cisco Andrade, Compton, CA**
7. **Johnny Gonsalves, Oakland, CA**
8. **Wallace "Bud" Smith, Cincinnati**
9. **Frankie Ryff, New York City**
10. **Lulu Perez, Brooklyn**

FEATHERWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Sandy Saddler,** New York City

1. **Percy Bassett, Philadelphia**
2. **Ray Famechon, France**
3. **Teddy Davis, Hartford**
4. **Jean Sneyers, Belgium**
5. **Hogan "Kid" Bassey, Nigeria**
6. **Ciro Morasen, Cuba**
7. **Carmelo Costa, Brooklyn**
8. **Billy Kelly, Ireland**
9. **Shigeja Kaneko, Japan**
10. **Baby Ortiz, Mexico**

BANTAMWEIGHTS

World Champion: **Robert Cohen,** France

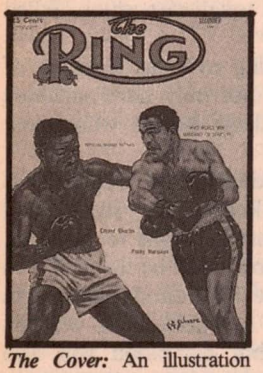
1. **Chamrern Songkitrat, Thailand**
2. **Raton Macias, Mexico**
3. **Pierre Cossemyns, Belgium**
4. **Mario D'Agata, Italy**
5. **Hilaire Pratesi, France**
6. **Andre Valignat, France**
7. **Peter Keenan, Scotland**
8. **Willie Toweel, South Africa**
9. **Nate Brooks, Cleveland**
10. **Billy Peacock, Los Angeles**

FLYWEIGHTS

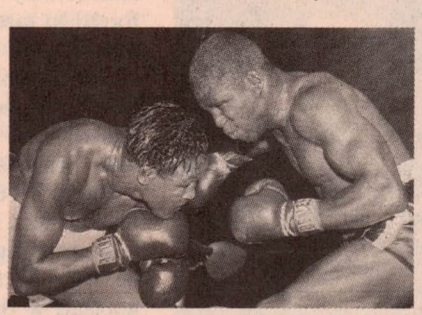
World Champion: **Yoshio Shirai,** Japan

1. **Leo Espinosa, Philippines**
2. **Pascual Perez, Argentina**
3. **Dai Dower, Wales**
4. **Eric Marsden, England**
5. **Danny Kid, Philippines**
6. **Tanny Campo, Philippines**
7. **Jake Tuli, South Africa**
8. **Nazzarino Gianelli, Italy**
9. **Mariano Diaz, Spain**
10. **Young Martin, Spain**

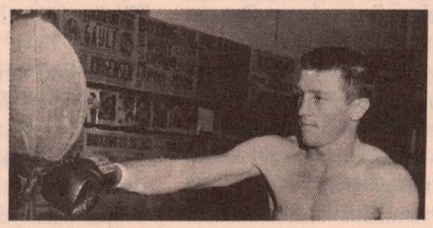
THE RING, December 1954



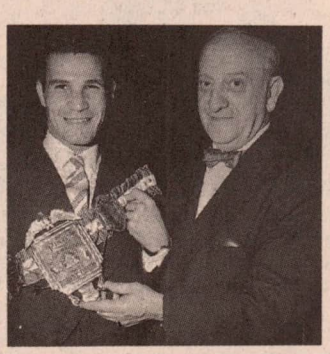
The Cover: An illustration of heavyweight champion **Rocky Marciano,** with blood dripping from his left eye, as he follows through with a right cross against former champion **Ezzard Charles.** The cover story featured a dream fight between Marciano and **Jack Dempsey.** Author Al Buck's ending was inconclusive. The sensational bout ended in the eighth round,with Dempsey falling through the ropes and onto the press table, and then re-entering the ring amid much controversy.



Fighter Of The Month: New York City welterweight **Johnny Saxton,** an upset winner over **Kid Gavilan** in a bout for the world welterweight title, received the honors. It was to be the last of Gavilan's 11 title fights.



Spotlight On Lightweights: Research editor Lew Eskin examines four promising 135-pounders: Michigan's **Kenny Lane** (pictured above), British Honduras' **Ludwig Lightburn,** Georgia's **Rocky Randell,** and North Carolina's **Earl Dennis.**



King Cohen: *Ring* editor Nat Fleischer reports from Bangkok, Thailand, where Algeria-born Frenchman **Robert Cohen** (pictured with Fleischer) captured the vacant bantamweight crown with a decision over local favorite **Chamrern Songkitrat.** It was Songkitrat's second title try. Cohen would make only one successful defense before losing the title to **Mario D'Agata.**

Many Happy Returns: Assistant Editor Jersey Jones examines rematches, and how they rate against the originals. The story was prompted by **Ezzard Charles'** disappointing effort in his rematch with heavyweight king **Rocky Marciano.**

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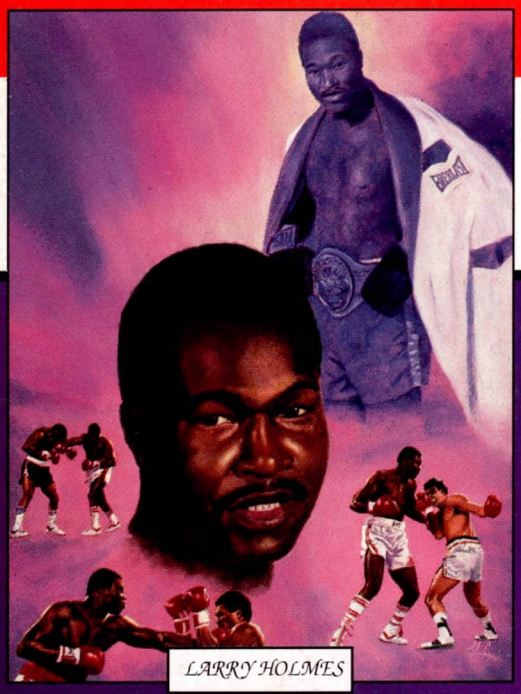

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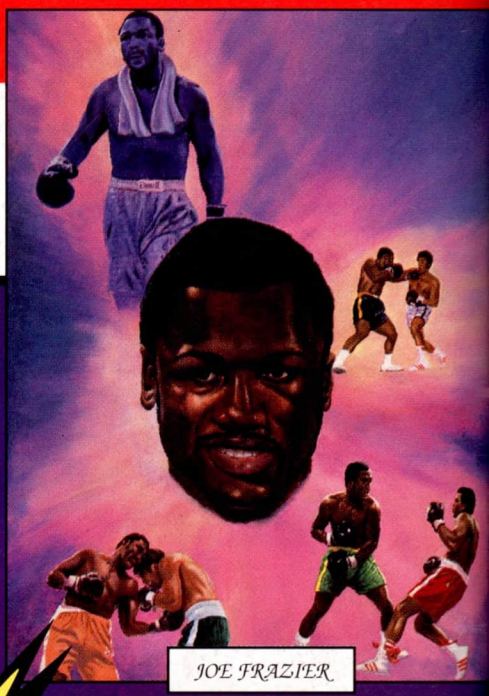

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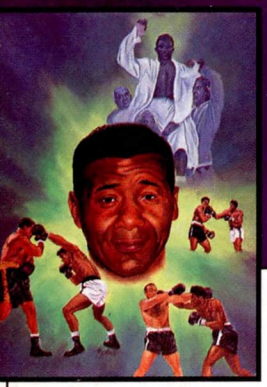

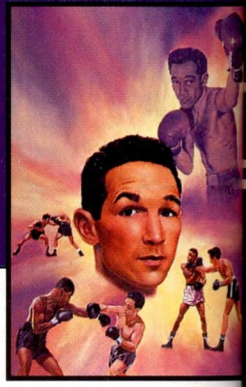

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